

Public Libraries

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The Library a Civic Center

Mary Frances Isom, librarian, Portland library

Portland, Oregon, like all Pacific coast cities, has grown very rapidly during the last decade. Ten years ago the street in front of the library was unpaved, there were few electric lights, and the caroling of the birds was heard above the clatter of the occasional trolley car. Today, Portland has some 260,000 inhabitants, many miles of paved streets extend in every direction, carlines connect the suburbs with the business center, the policeman's whistle is evident instead of the sweet song of the bird, and Washington Street with its gay electric signs is a miniature Broadway.

With pavements, sewers, lights, school houses—all the necessities which go to the making of a great city to be provided within a few years—it was not surprising that the building of halls and other meeting places was postponed. Here was an opportunity for the Library. At first there was little to offer. The central building badly arranged and over-crowded lent the children's room for an occasional evening lecture, and teachers' committees or club program committees frequently held their meetings in the librarian's office. The branch libraries were in storerooms, which offered no privacy. Even then two or three popular lectures were given in the branches every winter and I well remember one lecture on astronomy given before a packed house, the lecturer standing at the circulating desk and illustrating his talk with large charts, while several hundred people were outside in the street taking turns pressing their noses against the window, gratifying

their eyes if not their ears, two genial policemen meanwhile keeping a lane open for the passersby. One of the audience owned a fine telescope and offered the use of it for two weeks to the young people who would come to his door. Unfortunately the rainy season was with us and patriotism forbids the disclosure of how many stars were actually seen.

During the past three years, five branch library buildings have been erected in Portland, each one with a small auditorium and committee room, and each equipped with a stereopticon. Tradition has it that the typical library board is "heavy and narrow and made of wood." Fortunately, that description does not apply to the library board in Portland, it is a body of men quick to see possibilities and eager to take advantage of opportunities for increasing the library's service. Therefore, prompt was the decision that these meeting places were available without money and without price for all public uses, barring only entertainments for profit or for self-advertisement, and immediately the branches became centers of neighborhood and civic activities.

The East Portland branch was ready for occupancy in December, 1911, and during the first year of its life 65 lectures were held in the auditorium with an attendance of 11,494 and 45 clubs met in the committee room with an attendance of 1,518. Some of these gatherings were under the auspices of the Library, such as a series of talks on story-telling and children's literature, given by Mrs Edna Lyman Scott, and lectures by Charles Zeublin. There was a course of civic lectures given by different people upon Parks and playgrounds, Public

docks, School gardens, etc., etc., 11 in all. There was a course of University extension lectures on Modern English prose writers, given by Dr Foster, president of Reed college, and there were entertaining lectures upon travel, bird life and literary subjects; a speech by Dr Anna Shaw during the equal suffrage campaign filled the room to overflowing, and a little later a charming reading from his own writings by Dallas Lore Sharp was almost as well attended. The 29 different organizations that accepted of the hospitality of the library ranged in interests from a "booster" club to a Shakespeare society, including of course clubs of boys and girls.

To relate the experiences of the other branches would be but repetition with differences of name, date and degree.

The new central building opened last September and was planned with such civic service in view. There is an auditorium—Library Hall we call it—with comfortable fixed seats to the number of 550 and equipped with moving picture machine and stereopticon. There is a lecture room on the first floor seating comfortably 125—movable chairs—and furnished with a stereopticon with balopticon attachment for the showing of post cards and book illustrations; also with a gas plate. On the third floor are two large rooms seating 100 each, and five committee or study rooms holding from 25 to 30; there are also two large galleries on the north and south sides, 46x102, not needed at present for library uses and available for exhibits, etc. The building is so constructed that it is practically sound proof, and the upper lobbies are cork-tiled, so the thousands that come to the building for meetings and lectures do not disturb in any degree the quiet students in reading and reference rooms. The announcement was made that the same generous policy adopted for the branches would prevail in the central building, that there would be no charge for the halls and lecture rooms, not even for lights and janitor service. Immediately requests were received from many charitable and other associations asking

for permanent offices in the building. These were refused but each was urged to hold all general and committee meetings under the library roof.

At the same time with the splendid coöperation of the colleges of the vicinity, courses of lectures were arranged to run through the season from October until May. The Library offered one course of 10 weekly lectures on the "Evolution of liberty," which were given before crowded houses by Dr C. H. Chapman. The University of Oregon is giving weekly lectures on "The new democracy," Pacific university is offering a weekly course on "Twentieth century problems," and Reed college has several courses under way. Reed college (situated upon the outskirts of Portland) is a new college of liberal arts, which has yet to graduate its first class. It is manned by an ambitious, keenly intellectual, wide-awake body of men and women whose sense of responsibility extends beyond the classroom. They are already making an impress upon the life of the city. Perhaps the most valuable course offered by Reed college this winter has been the illustrated lectures upon the "Voter and the City of Portland," timely because of the new citizens which the enfranchisement of women has created. Lists of suggestive reading are provided for the majority of the lectures and distributed by a page at the door. On the small bulletin board hung next the door of every lecture room is fastened an envelope filled with application blanks and labeled "Take one," also an illuminated notice which reads "The library will be glad to prepare lists or to suggest books on any subject that may interest you. Apply at the information desk."

Lecture room A on the first floor is popular with art classes, teachers' clubs, etc., that need the balopticon to illustrate their work. A series of teachers' teas by grades, beginning with the first grade and winding up with the principals, was successfully held here. Weekly classes in Spanish, engineering and short story writing, all free, are held in the third floor study rooms.

As it happened, the first meeting in Library Hall was a large gathering of the Socialist party. The librarian was permitted to speak a few words of welcome and explanation and, in commenting upon her remarks, the leader said "The Public library is one institution in Portland that means fair play." Mrs Florence Kelley, secretary of the National Consumer's league, who was in Portland last summer at the close of the Seattle conference of associated charities, said to the librarian one day that there were only two states where she could draw a long free breath, Switzerland and Oregon. Oregon is indeed the land of democracy, the people rule and in so ruling express themselves with liberty if not license. Portland is the large city of the state and the soap-box is a nightly institution. Several mass meetings have been held in Library Hall, some to protest against certain ordinances, others to protest against the protestors. The People's Recall league meets weekly. But there was one happy occasion when all contention, all disagreement was forgotten, and when the student and the pleasure seeker met on common ground. On the evening of December 23 the first Christmas celebration was held in Library Hall. The stage was trimmed with holly and mistletoe and the beautiful Oregon grape brought in in quantities by the pages. The program was simple, the singing of carols by a double quartette of fresh young voices from Reed college and then President Foster read portions of the great Christmas epic, Dickens' *Christmas carol*. It was like a dream come true to watch those men and women—the room was filled to overflowing—eyes shining with laughter and tears, every care forgotten, absorbed in the inimitable story. And when the end came and the audience was dismissed with Tiny Tim's benediction "God bless us every one," no one wanted to go.

The street car company of Portland wished to give a course of lectures of instruction to its employes in the street railway service. Library Hall was used for this. The men were brought in four

groups. The librarian took advantage of these occasions to welcome the men, distributed list of books bearing on their work and a few miscellaneous works, invited them to become users of the library, and at the close of the lecture, showed them over the building, explaining the uses and privileges of each department. The result has been most gratifying. Every day since has seen these men returning, many to take out cards for themselves, a number accompanied by their families, the wife and several children, the father showing the party through the building along the same route which he had been taken, and pointing out various things which had given him special pleasure. Nothing for a long time has made such an impression on the library staff, and it is most amusing to see the rivalry as one gleefully announces to another, "I've had another motorman use my department!"

Educational bodies, such as various teachers' organizations, collegiate alumnae, debate clubs, press clubs, art classes, the Arts and crafts society, Parent-Teachers' associations, Shakespeare clubs, the Audubon society, Bible study classes, engineering societies, the Alliance française, meet regularly in the library. The County teachers' institute held a three days' session in Library Hall, the Oregon society of artists hung a two weeks' exhibit in the third floor lobby where the light is specially good for pictures both by day and by night; several political clubs meet regularly in the library, and many civic and philanthropic societies such as the Oregon Civic league, with its many committees, the Hygienic society, the Junior commissioners, the Recreation league, and women. The Industrial welfare commission found the library a convenient center for meetings, also the Bindery girls' union, and such organizations as the Oregon horticultural society, the Portland rose society, and the League of Northwest municipalities. A beautiful dahlia show was held for two days in the north gallery bringing hundreds

of visitors within the library doors. This was followed by the state medical examinations. A Portland center of the Drama league was recently organized in Library Hall. Several state societies hold monthly meetings in the hall and the Indiana society to show its appreciation lends a piano for library use.

After four months' experience, it is a pleasure to record that the library's hospitality has never been abused. For instance, at a meeting the other day of the Association of collegiate alumnae, where the mayor's secretary was talking upon the Commission form of government, some disaffected men and women wandered in and surreptitiously circulated literature uncomplimentary to the mayor. The librarian was called to remonstrate. After the meeting, two of the miscreants—well known I. W. W.'s—appeared in the office and apologized, saying that they "had no intention of offending against the ethics of the library and would never do so willingly." The Library has become the center of all these various interests, men and women of every walk in life, every profession or none at all, every age and every color, pass its doors. It costs money to keep this open house, but the bills are cheerfully paid because of value received.

From the eighth of September to the last of October the library halls were used 122 times, in November 127 times, in December, in spite of the interruption of the holidays, 137 times. In December throughout the library system 88,880 volumes were drawn for home use, an increase of 28% over December of the previous year. The registration increased 80%. In January the circulation reached 100,000.

At the time, a librarian may lend book after book without noticing special progress for the individual readers or for the work as a whole. But in the long run after many years of substantial work, the backward glance will nevertheless give the leader, who strives to go forward, the cheerful proof that there has been real advance.—Johannes Grönberg (in *Bogsamlingsbladet*, Copenhagen).

How to Get the Best Books Read*

Miss E. T. Canon, librarian, Colorado college, Colorado Springs.

In his delightful book "The gentle reader," Crothers quotes at some length from "Tom Jones," a passage in which the author and the Gentle Reader take time for a little conversation. The author remarks that an author will write better for having some knowledge of the subject of which he treats. The Gentle Reader asks for his arguments. Then the author modifies his expressions. "To say the truth—I require no more than that the author should have some *little* knowledge of the subject of which he treats." "That sounds more reasonable," says the Gentle Reader.

The problem of getting the best books read is not the all absorbing one if you are an assistant in a college library. With the pressure of required college work increasing every year, there is not as much time as I wish there were for reading. Yet with 40 or 50 books on the freshman English shelf alone, including Lamb, Hawthorne, Keats, Shelley, Tennyson, Shakespeare, Stevenson, Thoreau, Kipling, etc., etc., the taste for good literature has a fair chance to develop. I feel, however, very strongly that if the reading habit is not formed in college (if it has not been formed before) that it has small chance of ever being formed. So we have made in Coburn library the last few years a special effort to bring good books that are not required reading to the attention of the students. I cannot as yet boast of any astounding results, but I am convinced of one thing—and that brings me to the main point of my theme—that the very best way to get good books read is to read them ourselves.

I am going to direct my remarks to library assistants, for two reasons—because head librarians do not need to be told to read, and because the assistant meets more people over the desk in the day's work than the librarian. Some day I wish we might have a meeting or a

*Read before Colorado library association, Nov. 21, 1913, at Denver.

round table for assistants only, "no more need apply." We should feel much more daring than we can now with our chief listening to every word we say, and many of the small and comparatively unimportant but often very perplexing details of an assistant's work could be discussed. But to return to my subject—all sorts of advertising, all kinds of lists, will not in the main succeed greatly, if the personal touch is withdrawn. In the Book club in connection with the college library, altho the readers are people of leisure and can read book reviews and do, yet in spite of the fact that a printed list of new books is sent to them every month, the question is constantly asked—"Are there any specially good books on this list that I ought to read? Will you check a few of the best ones?" A year or more ago I spent an evening with some 25 or 30 people who were engaged in library work and the question of reading came up and each one was asked to name some biography they had read in the last year. There were instant signs of panic. Some had not read one for years, some seemed never to have read one, while six or more had read only "Twenty years in Hull House." This was near Chicago and the book had a live interest for them. Not one in the group had read Mary Antin's "Promised Land," or Stanley's "Autobiography," or Benson's "Ruskin," or any one of a dozen others. So I say that it is not enough that the librarian should read. He and his assistants are the only paid literary agents in the community and they should know books, old, new, good, bad and indifferent.

Certainly the "book feeling" lightens the day's work. We need to know our books inside and out. It is not enough to know how to catalog the Life of Alice Freeman Palmer, or to classify "The Promised Land," if we are indifferent to the inspiration there is between their covers. The fact that the love of books does lighten the day's work is a large factor in library work. I cannot imagine what would encourage some of us to keep on with it, with the long hours, short vacations and small salaries if it were not

for this intellectual stimulation that many professions do not offer, at least in so marked a degree.

And so before taking up a few practical ways of getting the book and the reader together, I want to speak of some books that have circulated in Coburn and of some that I like very much. Also I wish to speak of the fact that I know of a small public library in Illinois in which one assistant who made up her mind to increase the reading of non-fiction was able to circulate every book that she put on her list. She tried short lists first, books that she herself had read and could recommend, and many of them like "Alice Freeman Palmer" and Rii's "Making of an American," circulated many times. I realize that some women will never read very much besides the *Ladies' Home Journal*, but I am firmly convinced that their sons and daughters may if good things are put into their hands early enough.

Emerson says that biography is the only true history, and I believe that if the right book and right reader get together at the right time that nine people out of ten will become interested in biography. The most interesting essay on the subject of biography is one of Phillips Brooks, in a volume called "Essays and addresses," and it can be read to children, in fact it was written for the boys of Phillips Exeter academy, and is well worth reading at least once a year. It makes a good beginning in boys or girls clubs, and grown people will enjoy it as well. After this, if one wishes to start in slowly, try Barrie's "Life of Margaret Ogilvy," Wilson's "The Eugene Field I knew," Howells "My Mark Twain," or Benson's "Ruskin," a delightfully informal book, quickly read, and by this time you can hope for a slight show of interest. Often to open to some interesting passage in a book and suggest reading only a part of it will whet the appetite for the whole volume. Try this with H. M. Stanley's "Autobiography," or Irving's "Life of Washington," Trevelyan's "Life and letters of Macaulay," Carl Schurz's "Reminiscences," Bla n d's "China under the Empress Dowager,"

Mrs Hugh Fraser's "Letters from Japan," the "Life of Mary Lyon;" some of the various lives of Lincoln, etc. I have known some college boys to be intensely interested in the life of Scott, the one volume edition, and in the life of Cellini, which gives such a good picture of life in those far distant days. And who could have a soul so dead as not to be carried away and entirely charmed with A. B. Paine's "Mark Twain;" three wonderful volumes that are full of the most delightful and amusing and perfectly side splitting anecdotes and letters—better than any novel in the last ten years; you are sorry when it is finished and you have a far better idea of this distinguished man of letters than you ever had before. You are introduced to his large circle of friends, Howells, Twichell, Kipling, Mrs Ward, Aldrich and all that interesting throng.

And then allied to biography are letters, for pick-up reading, dipped into at any page, Meredith's, Stevenson's, Fitzgerald's, C. E. Norton's, S. O. Jewett's. And the informal essay for the people who are tired of novels. Nor do I agree with Mr Dana and rule out Marcus Aurelius and Epictetus. I have given them out many times. A few lines from either will make a good beginning for a day's work. How is this—"One should stand upright, not be propped upright." Or this—"Take away the mental assumption 'I am injured,' and the complaint is removed." Arnold Bennett may have gotten a few hints from Marcus Aurelius, "When you are utterly distracted by external affairs, return quickly into yourself, and do not be out of tune any more than is necessary."

Never more than today was there greater need for women to live sane and simple lives. The whole social system needs the leaven that such women as Jane Addams and Julia Lathrop can give it. We waste our opportunities and our influence, if we have any, is often on the small side of a large subject. We are far too nervous and impatient and inconsistent, and we miss the joy of life that comes from sane living and can only come that way. Any woman is better

for having read Arnold Bennett's "Human machine," King's "Rational living," Gulick's "Mind and work," Crane's "Right and wrong thinking."

So if we have real love for books, and a keen interest in reading and readers, if we read books and book reviews, if we talk about the books we read, how shall we bring these books to the attention of the readers, especially to those with whom we seldom have a word? Bulletins near the door, and the books listed shelved near by; change the collection often. Watch the people who come in and call their attention to books along the line of their interests. Publish annotated lists in the newspapers; have them for distribution in the library, use them for book marks. If certain books seem to be neglected, put them in a conspicuous place. The work with schools and clubs is such a factor in library work now that I do not need to speak of that.

Let us never be discouraged. If we can awaken in even a few people, especially young people, a desire to read, a thirst for books, and help them to know the love of books, the work is not in vain. We cannot force people to read, but if we can kindle in them the least desire, and can pass on to them some of our treasures, books that have been worth while to us, we may feel sure they will discover treasures of their own.

We can afford to *cultivate* our taste in books. We have to cultivate our voices if we wish to sing, we have gradually to learn to like and appreciate Wagner and Bach if we play, so why not train our minds to appreciate good literature—for as Goethe says—"Taste is only to be educated by contemplation not of the tolerably good, but of the truly excellent."

We all crave companionship, and "there are three kinds of companions,—men, women, and books"—says Andrew Lang.

"Character is built out of circumstances.—From exactly the same materials one man builds palaces, while another builds hovels."—G. H. Lewes.

The State University Library and State Educational Cooperation*

Clarence W. Summer, librarian, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks

The spirit of modern library development becomes more and more truly the spirit of large and far-reaching service; the spirit of sincerity in attempting to help meet some of the real needs of men and women, and to instill into the hearts of boys and girls such a love for books that they may be led into the habit of good reading. Today we not only believe that every community owes it to itself to have a library, but that every community owes it to itself to have a library that is in truth, a living, vital force in that community. Much has been said concerning the library of yesterday, the librarian of which was seemingly content with the collecting and preserving of books. Those of us who have chosen librarianship as our profession have reason to be glad that it is our privilege to be librarians of to-day. It is our duty and our privilege to be constantly gathering into our libraries good books and many valuable sources of information, not that they may be locked up in cases and carefully guarded, nor not alone that they may be ready for service, and useful in the time of need, but that they may be, in so far as is possible and practicable, sent into homes where they may, perchance, touch the hearts of those who have been longing for and needing the inspiration, information, or recreation which they contain.

We as librarians are coming to see more clearly the possibilities of our profession and to look upon our work as something more than routine, essential as routine is in every library. We are coming to realize that there is truth in the statement that the real test of the value of the library is in its use, that the truly useful library is far more than a building furnished with book shelves and stocked with row after row of books, that it is indeed and in truth, as some one has said,

"an active, potential force in the community, which reaches out and touches and quickens the lives of individuals in the community, developing and enriching those lives in every possible way."

In the light of what I have been saying, it would seem that the important problem confronting us, as librarians to-day is, how can we increase the efficiency of our libraries; how can we extend their usefulness; how can we "reach out farther in the matter of the freely giving of books"; how can we "unlock the books themselves and open the pages?"

What I have been saying about the spirit of modern library development I believe to be neither fancy nor theory. I am of the firm conviction that it is true. No one would deny, however, that (and this brings me to the subject that I have chosen to discuss) if we are to judge from works accomplished and lines of service extended, the spirit of modern library development would seem to pertain more to the public library than to the college and university library.

It is a well known fact among librarians that college and university library development has not kept pace with public library development. It would seem that it has been too much the tendency of the university library (and I include the college library in using this term) to serve only the university community—the students and the faculty. This is due, no doubt, largely to the entirely inadequate support that it receives. It would seem that too often university authorities have failed to recognize the place of the library in the university, the large scope and importance of its activities, the multiplicity of detail connected with its administration—that the library is really an institution in itself, and as such, should be given equal rank with any other department of the university. And I want to state here that it is my conviction that the fault lies partially with librarians in not making the influence of the library felt more in the community, in not pushing it up on a plane where it will command the respect and dignity which justly belong to it.

*Presented at the 1913 meeting of North Dakota library association and at the mid-winter meeting of League of library commission in Chicago.

Granting that the first function of a university library is to meet the demands made upon it by its students and faculty, is there not another important field of service, lying at its very door, as it were, which could be developed if sufficient support were given to it? I refer to a state-wide service in the matter of providing a source of general information and dissemination of knowledge that would benefit the entire citizenship of the state. Why should not the state university library extend its lines of service beyond its campus? Could it not become an institution of much greater usefulness to the people of the state if it were to act as a bureau of general information, a clearing house, as it were, on matters pertaining to education, town and city government, public health, civic improvement, and many other subjects of public interest? Again, does not the state university library, coöperating with the Extension division of the university, have a unique opportunity for greatly enlarged service, extending far beyond the campus, to every corner of the state, in that it is surrounded by a body of men, highly trained in their professions, and experts in their respective lines of work, whose counsel and advice and knowledge could be made use of in helping to meet specific and real needs of the people of the state? Such highly trained and expert service cannot be supplied even by the large public library. Nor can the Public library commission, important and far reaching as its work is, meet the situation. It remains for the university library, it seems to me, coöperating closely with its Extension division, to fully cover this important field of service. The university is a great reservoir of knowledge which the people should be able to tap as occasion demands. An intelligent coöperation between the university and the people outside of it results in making a broader and more efficient citizenship, and such work is the proper function of a state university in a democratic commonwealth.

I would not overestimate the place the university library has in university extension work. I am fully aware of the

fact that extension work in its various phases is rapidly becoming one of the most important factors in the educational policies of our universities. The extension idea has grown rapidly within a decade, until today practically all of our principal state universities are carrying on extension work of some kind. In some the work is done through lecture courses without the support of an organized extension department. Others have thoroughly organized extension departments and employ correspondence-study courses in the extension teaching, under the direction of the faculty. I am fully aware that extension departments are collecting material along many lines of public interest and are themselves supplying this material and information whenever possible. This, it seems to me, is without question, one of their legitimate functions, as it is also the function of the state library commission.

It is not my purpose to overlook or undervalue the library extension work that is being carried on by the extension departments themselves, nor to infer that this work should be carried on altogether by any one agency. It is rather my purpose to try to show how important it is that the university library, with the unique opportunity it has for state educational coöperation, as I have endeavored to point out above, take some initiative in the matter of library extension—that it identify itself in this work more fully and more definitely than it has in the past—to such an extent that it will become recognized as a very definite and important part of the state's agencies for library extension.

Our State university library is doing much along this line. The Agricultural college is also doing considerable work of a similar nature. It is gratifying to know that, in a state like North Dakota, where library facilities are limited and the need for such work is thus the greater, the university library is not only meeting the regular demands made upon it by the university community—the students and faculty—but is daily meeting specific and real needs of the people of the state. That our university library

is rendering real and definite service to the people of North Dakota can be judged from the following figures: our records show that, from the opening of the University in September, 1911, to May 31, 1912, 232 requests for material were received by the library from 87 different towns over the state. The largest number of requests received from any one place was 29. Two hundred and twelve books, 89 periodicals, and 280 pamphlets were loaned out in the state during this period; besides, many letters were written by the library giving information of one kind or another. Thirty-four bibliographies were compiled for people over the state. The majority of these requests came from teachers, principals, and school superintendents; however, many of them came from lawyers, doctors, bankers, business men, mechanics and others. Statistics covering the period from September, 1911, to May 31, 1913, show that a total of 471 requests were received from 126 different towns over the state. Further data obtained from the correspondence on file indicates that during this period 31 bankers, 34 business men, 14 editors, 23 lawyers, 27 librarians, 8 ministers, 119 school superintendents, 36 school principals, 105 teachers, 28 high school students, and 46 unclassified individuals made use of this service. In response to these requests the university library sent out 612 books, 268 periodicals, 547 pamphlets, and compiled 45 bibliographies. To properly carry on this work already requires a large part of the time of one member of the staff, and the work, as we believe, is only in its beginning. Provision must be made within the near future for the appointment of an additional member of the library staff, whose duty it will be to care for the extension work of the library. It will also be necessary to make provision as soon as possible for the duplication of the books and other literature for which there is frequent demand both at the University and out in the state.

In North Dakota we believe that it is the legitimate function of the state university library to serve not only the uni-

versity community, but, in so far as it is possible, according to its means and equipment, the people away from the University.

In the light of these facts, I think you will agree with me when I say that in North Dakota the university library has extended its lines of service beyond the campus, and has, as it were, opened its doors to the people of the state. To-day the library is officially recognized by the university authorities as being a very definite and essential part of the extension organization of the university, in that it acts as a bureau of general information, sends out books, pamphlets, periodicals, and documents, compiles bibliographies, and refers the inquiries it receives, demanding expert and technical knowledge, to the men on the faculty who by reason of the positions they hold, are highly qualified to render service in matters which pertain to their respective lines of work. It would seem that from the many letters of appreciation we have received from people over the state who have taken advantage of this service and other lines of extension work carried on by the university, that they are beginning to realize that ours is a state university in fact as well as in name—a university for the whole commonwealth.

Ours is a worthy, a noble profession, but we as librarians are not worthy of the profession unless we have an absorbing passion, not only for gathering good books into our libraries and properly caring for them, but for making them accessible to as large a number of people as possible. This is the library missionary spirit that is causing men to-day to realize, because of results that are being accomplished, that librarianship is a profession that offers opportunity for large service, that it is a profession worthy of all the energy that any man or woman can put into it.

Few of us make the most of our minds. The body ceases to grow in a few years; but the mind, if we will it, may grow almost as long as life lasts.—Sir John Lubbock.

The Books in the Library

In a recent manuscript report, made to the Hackensack improvement commission by the Board of trustees of the Johnson free library of that city, through its president, William Welles Holley, there is a discussion relative to the books chosen that contains some rather striking comments that may offer suggestions to others similarly minded.

"In closing this report, in view of what has been fitly called 'the literary deluge' of the day, the trustees would quote from the report of last year, and repeat the question then asked, and with an added emphasis, What can we do? It is not an academic but a vital question. We are constantly hearing about the '100 best books' and the 'five foot shelf of books' as the panacea for literary hunger. But tastes differ, and judgment is far from being unanimous. The trustees feel that they are not only to provide the books but a sense of responsibility as to what books shall be provided.

In the last yearly report of Doctor Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia university, he deplores too much slovenly reading matter as an obstacle to education; 'the substitution of quantity for quality,' and he speaks of the illiteracy of students, of which one reason may be found in the mass of stories which the Carnegie and other libraries feed to them, and which they skim through at double quick, getting no permanent impression. Their great grandfathers read over and assimilated a handful of books. The little dingy or tattered collection was often their school, college and university. He illustrates his point by the example of Abraham Lincoln, who 'limited by his opportunities—yet read everything he could lay his hands upon, and was certainly fortunate in the few volumes of which he became the possessor, and which he turned with a nightly and daily hand: the Bible, Esop's Fables, Robinson Crusoe, Pilgrim's Progress, a history of the United States, and Weems' Life of Washington. These were the best, and he read

them over and over till he knew them by heart.'

In the 'deluge of literature,' these are wide works. 'Fortunate is the man who has lived with a few real books,' says Mr Hamilton Mabie. Yet perhaps there never was a time when fiction claimed for itself so insistently the central position among forms of literary composition as today. The novel, the short-story, the romance, the imaginary biography, the volume of made-up letters purporting to represent a friendship in correspondence—these and a score of other devices make up the larger part of our new books. And since the reading public demands this, and is apparently much affected by reading them, we may frankly deplore, even while we are compelled to recognize it as a fact. The author of a book of immoral tendency is culpable. But blame is also due to the people who read it. The quack is too much in evidence in all fields nowadays. In our earlier writers, Cooper, Emerson, Holmes, Bryant, Longfellow, Whittier, no indecent thought ever found a place. Howells has portrayed the social life of America in his time, minutely and voraciously, without finding it necessary to defile a single page. There must be, there will be a healthy reaction from the baneful influence of this so-called realism.

And to help it along as far as possible, the trustees try to scrutinize the books which come to the library and to discriminate between those they admit and the hopelessly bad. Unhappily this censorship cannot be carried out in its integrity because of the demand. When a current book is not found upon our shelves, it is simply because it was so bad we could not give it circulation."

Samples Wanted

In preparing a pamphlet on library publicity for the American library association the undersigned suggests that samples of printed advertising and items of publicity methods be sent to the following address: Charles E. Rush, librarian, Public library, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Progress

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

It is just barely possible, also, that we are the cause of the trouble of "Distressed Librarian," as the giving of baths is one of our regular features. During the year 1913 our bath circulation was 68,113, being 1,310 for each week or 218 for each day; that is, such is the actual number of baths recorded, though we are suspicious that some got away without being counted. Our class of patrons do not always ask for a bath. The girl at the loan desk, seeing a patron wandering around, vaguely looking for something, in response to the usual query, "Can I help you to find the book you want?" frequently gets the reply "Me want wash."

We are glad to note that the libraries of Connecticut have discovered the benefits of circulating books through the schools in those districts that are remote from the library. In our 13 years of experience in this particular field we have been able to see good results from just such work many times.

It is stated by the Pittsburgh papers that the Braddock Carnegie free library, the first Carnegie library built in the United States, will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary this spring. As this is also the jubilee celebration of the Carnegie library movement we hope to make it an affair worthy of the commemoration of an event of such far reaching importance.

GEO. H. LAMB, Librarian,
Carnegie free library, Braddock, Pa.

Traveling Libraries in Victoria, B. C.

[A letter from Mr Herbert Killam, in charge of the traveling libraries of Victoria, B. C., telling of his work, contains the following, which seems interesting enough to share with others.]

If I compare the figures of my report with those of reports from various states, I am disappointed; but when I remember how different are the conditions in country, people, habits, and almost everything that can be thought of, I say, "Oh, well, it might be worse; I'll have another try at it."

Considering this province and the circumstances under which the traveling work is carried on, one must realize that in no other part of the world are libraries carried in canoes and on pack-horses, distances are so great and transportation so undeveloped that persons have stayed in their own settlements for twenty-five years without a change. This is a pioneering country still. And just in that fact lies what I have called the "growing hope."

Our library staff is growing so fast that we will soon be obliged to put up tents in the back-yard to hold them, our present quarters are so crowded. The new building is rising in all its grandeur, a grandeur that is marvellous. But we won't get into the building for another year. And won't we all be glad to get into it, and have room to stretch our wings! For I am firmly convinced that in most library people the wings are sprouting; though you can't convince the public of that fact.

Change of Name for A. L. A. Booklist

At the meeting of the Publishing Board of the American library association, in Chicago, Jan. 2, it was voted that such members of the association as wish to do so be invited to suggest another name for the A. L. A. *Booklist*. Suggested names may be sent to the secretary, who will duly transmit them to the Publishing Board for their consideration.

GEORGE B. UTLEY, secretary,
American Library Association, Chicago.

Bulletin Material

Recent supplements to the Sunday *Public Ledger*, of Philadelphia, contain a series of reproductions in color of the Violet Oakley pictures illustrating the life of William Penn, the originals being hung in the State Capitol at Harrisburg. They will form excellent material for story hour work, and the complete series may be had from the *Ledger* at 40c.

FLORA E. ROBERTS, librarian,
Public library, Pottsville, Pa.

Library Supplies

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The number of queries as a result of my paper in the December number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES is most gratifying, in that it shows an interest in the consideration of such prosaic but necessary matters as library supplies and library methods. That there is an honest difference of opinion is natural—that there is not more, is surprising. Experimentation along the lines suggested by those differing in opinion may result in the discovery of a still better article than that which I mentioned. From the letters received, I tabulate six of the queries which have been raised more than once, and am glad to answer them so far as possible.

1. Why did you not use Library of Congress cards?

Our catalog consists largely of analyticals, made for a highly specialized collection, much of which is found in reports and pamphlet literature. The proportion of Library of Congress cards which we might use, would be very small. Again we have found that the Library of Congress cards require so many changes in form of entry to adapt them to our special needs that no time is saved in their use and especially since we have simplified our entries as much as possible.

2. Will you be more explicit in your use of wood alcohol for removing shellac?

If the shellac is of the kind used by many libraries, a sharp knife is the first necessity. Scrape until close to the binding. Then apply wood alcohol. It is a good idea to apply this alcohol to a dozen books at a time. This gives an opportunity for it to penetrate into the books first treated. After the shellac is removed, a little touch of the steam, and a cloth wet in warm water will remove the lettering unless waterproof ink has been used.

3. Where do you get the red top catalog cards?

The Library Bureau will put this red top on the cards if you so request, without additional expense.

4. Is the Kee Lox ribbon a record ribbon?
It is not. The record ribbon from

the nature of its composition and purpose has a tendency to smudge, sometimes slightly, often a good deal. The one mentioned is the only ribbon which we found would never smudge.

5. Do you varnish your book numbers more than once?

No, although we apply two coats of varnish to the book—first a band of varnish is applied and after it is dry, the book number is added in white ink. When this is thoroughly dry a second coat of the varnish is applied.

6. Do you not find that the Gaylord gummed cloth shrinks as it dries and the paper cracks off along the edge?

It has this tendency, but if care is taken in the use of water, this shrinking can be almost entirely overcome. The gummed cloth should be moistened and not soaked with water. Too much water unduly expands both paper and cloth which in turn do not shrink uniformly. Too much water also lessens the strength of the gum.

FRED'K W. JENKINS,
Librarian.

Russell Sage Foundation,
New York City.

Library Displays in Store Windows

The Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The notices which have appeared from time to time in the Library journals regarding the spasmodic but praiseworthy attempts to use store-window advertising have led me to write you to say in a very few words what has been the experience of a public library which has had an experience of three full years of almost continuous window displays in the best-located store window in the city of Waltham.

The window seems to have three great values to us; there are many minor points which I will not mention. (1) The posters tell what the library is doing and will do; (2) the display of books in quantity impresses on the non-library-using public that the library has a wealth of books; and (3) the books from the so-called "useful" sections of the classification always bring in men and women at once

who have never used the library or have not used it for a long time. All three of these values are possessed by the window which is used continuously, and I believe that the fact of continuity should be more seriously considered by all who contemplate window-advertising.

It would be a long story to tell all the details of our more successful plans of window-advertising, but, if anyone is in doubt as to the value of a continuous window, let me add one more emphatic word of encouragement and assure him that window-advertising not only increases circulation but it creates a multitude of new thoughts throughout the city regarding the library. In our opinion, it stands next to efficient service and the newspaper as good advertising.

O. C. DAVIS,
Librarian.

Public Library, Waltham, Mass.

Exhibit of Labor-Saving Devices

An exhibit and demonstration of labor-saving devices adapted to library use will be held, under the direction of the A. L. A. committee on library administration, in connection with the Washington conference, May 25-30, 1914. The exhibit will include mechanical devices of all kinds, from expensive equipment which only the largest libraries would need or could afford to inexpensive devices and appliances within the reach of even the smallest libraries.

The committee wish to have as many firms and devices as possible represented in this exhibit, but on account of the limited space available a careful selection will have to be made from the large number of possible exhibitors. The undersigned will be very glad to receive from any librarians suggestions of devices and appliances which they would recommend for inclusion in the exhibit, either because they have used them and know them to be good or because they would like an opportunity to inspect them and see them demonstrated.

The committee will also be glad to secure information concerning any time-saving methods which have been success-

fully adopted in any library for simplifying routine work. Just how such information can best be used has not yet been decided, but the exhibit of mechanical devices seems to offer a favorable time for making known to all librarians, in some way, the successful efforts which have been made by many to apply "scientific management" principles to library work.

C. SEYMOUR THOMPSON.
Public library, Washington, D. C.

Difference in Price

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Messrs MacMillan & Co. have placed the "Golden Treasury series" on the net list. This "series" is possibly the most attractive library edition for Palgrave's "Golden Treasury;" for some anthologies of French and German poems; for the "Death of Socrates, *Apology* and *Phaedo*," etc., etc.

As Messrs MacMillan now charge \$1 less 10 per cent—90c, and as the English price is but 2/6 the saving to libraries when importing is from 25 to 33 1/3 per cent, varying with the commission paid their importing agents.

O. R. HOWARD THOMSON.
Williamsport, Pa.

Library Pensions

The City council of Omaha, Nebr., has taken advantage of an Act of the last legislature and passed an ordinance establishing a pension system for the city library employees.

Library employees may be assessed not to exceed one and one-half per cent of their salaries, to which the city is to add a sum at least one and one-half times this amount. The fund may be increased by private donations or bequests.

Any person who has been in library service 35 years, 20 of which have been in the Omaha public library, may be pensioned at the rate of \$420 a year. Any person who has served 40 years, 20 of which shall be in the Omaha public library shall be retired on a pension.

Public Libraries	
MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER	
Library Bureau	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	Editor
Subscription	\$2 a year
Five copies to one library	\$8 a year
Single number	25 cents
Foreign subscriptions	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Spell it "catalog"—Is there any good reason why library folks, of all others, who need directness in their work, should return to the longer spelling of the word "catalog"? The "ue" had been almost entirely dropped for 20 years or more by librarians in their use of the word, an act entirely within the approval of dictionaries and other authorities of standing. Within the last few years, as the ranks have been receiving those whose previous training was not received within library lines, there is a very noticeable return to "catalogue." This is to be deplored and the hope is expressed that its use may grow less frequent. When one has not a good reason for doing a thing, he has one good reason for not doing it.

An ill-afforded loss of a trustee.—The resignation of Dr William M. Davidson as superintendent of schools for the District of Columbia, to become superintendent of schools of Pittsburgh, is a distinct loss to the public schools of

the District of Columbia, since Dr Davidson was a member of the library board.

Dr Davidson has long been recognized as one of the few school men who recognize the public library as an integral part of public education, and with the distinct lack of appreciation of the library and its deserts on the part of the Congressional committee, Dr Davidson's going from Washington City is an especially severe loss to the Public library.

Refined cruelty—A newspaper notice says that a special meeting of the board of trustees of a library in Pennsylvania was called to grant a leave of absence for two weeks to a librarian who had continuously served for nearly nineteen years, and during that time had taken only four vacations of more than one day's duration. It is not to be wondered that the present leave of absence, the longest she has ever had, is asked for on account of ill health. The newspaper speaks of the unusual fitness of the librarian for her work, the enthusiasm and constant desire to make the library a genuine benefit, and of the circulation averaging greater than that of any library in the state in towns almost twice as large.

It would certainly seem there was room for somebody to pour in a little enlightenment on that board of trustees and on that community as to just what a library is, what it is for, and what mutual relations in connection with it exist. It is to be supposed that the ideas of fairness, of unselfishness, of personal honesty, of efficiency, of integrity, of civic pride, and many other ideas usually disseminated by public libraries went out from that library. If so, it was certainly fresh water from a stale spring, as none of these things seemed to be in

force in the Board management of the library itself.

So much has been said about the rights of librarians in public service to opportunities of living the rational life of a human being, that it has almost become a trite subject, and yet such instances as are noted here would seem to indicate that a full comprehension of the matter has not reached the whole public, even in so supposedly advanced a state as Pennsylvania. It may well be asked what right has any community to take advantage of the willingness of a public servant to wear out herself in any such fashion? It may well be questioned on what basis such willingness rests. Whatever it may have been in this case, there are cases where it means a realization on the librarian's part of the stupid lack of appreciation on the part of the board which may express itself in the curtailment of proper service on the part of the library.

It might not be a mistake for the Library commission of Pennsylvania to express itself and take whatever steps might be possible to enforce such an expression, as to the fair and equitable treatment of librarians of public libraries, who cannot, or through fear, will not, speak for themselves, and in so far as this applies to other states, it also calls for such remedy as the state library authorities may possess.

A. L. A. meeting for 1914.—The proposed meeting for 1914 is not outdone in prospects by any previous conference of the A. L. A., and, indeed, if one believes with some, that a city-meeting is desirable, then hardly another meeting is so well favored. The multitude of different kinds of libraries in Washington, the diverse elements in their conduct and field, the various ends and aims already attained, all combine to provide a wide field of observations.

Secretary Utley announces that the program will not be crowded, that ample time will be given to meet and discuss matters of interest. With Mr Anderson's wide experience in library service, as A. L. A. president for 1914, he will undoubtedly direct the trend of the meetings to bring out of the feast of good things of the program something helpful for all classes of workers.

Washington itself is, of course, intensely interesting, whether viewed as a city, as a capital, a historic place or as an international parade ground.

Last, but by no means least—the question of cost ought to be within bounds. Presumably railroad fares will not vary, but living expenses ought to be quite within the control of the personal wishes of every one.

This, then, is the year for all classes of library workers to attend the A. L. A., trustees, chiefs of staffs, assistants, library school students and retired critics. Those who come prepared to enjoy the meeting, to give help and get help from it, will not be disappointed.

Civil Service in Illinois Libraries

A strong protest was made by the editor of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* at the time the civil service blanket was spread over the state positions in Illinois, against including the library service of the state under civil service rule. Some of those most interested in securing Civil Service rule agreed it might not be best for library service, but if one exception was made, it would leave a loop hole for others to use. The discrepancy of including one part of the educational system and leaving out the others, however, had no significance for them.

Now we have the spectacle in Illinois of the libraries of the State university, the State library and the State normal school libraries being compelled to submit to the civil service commission, their call for library assistants of all grades, who must undergo an examination set by the commission. Here is the university, especially, with its library school issuing diplomas, **saying that its graduates have completed its prescribed course and are**

now prepared to do creditable library work. Such a graduate may desire to be employed in the university library. Therefore, since the civil service rules apply to "curator of museum of anatomy, janitors, library assistants, mechanicians, superintendents of buildings," such graduate must sit for an examination before the civil service commission to find out if the diploma tells the truth.

Such a diploma is not questioned in any library circle outside of Illinois, but within the borders there is fear in the civil service commission lest "a graduate may have been favored in being graduated, or become stale since the degree was conferred." Truly a premium for the State library school. On the other hand, a graduate of any other department of the university may go right back the next day in the service of that department, or a similar department in any other school of the state; but a graduate from the library school must be passed upon by a board of complete outsiders before taking up the work which the State university has certified he is able to perform.

In the state library, where for the first time in the memory of those now living any attempt worth while has been made to systematize and make useful its collections, a number of appointments made solely for merit are being discredited as lacking the authority of the civil service.

Secretary of State Woods, who is also ex officio State-librarian of Illinois, has taken great interest in the library since coming into office. After carefully studying the problem and investigating it in every direction, he decided that the library needed re-classification and re-cataloging. The only person in the library who had had special training for the work was the assistant-librarian, in whose charge the library was placed. She soon found it was impossible to carry out Mr. Woods' instructions, to organize the library, without more trained, experienced people.

The salaries for the library staff are specified for each position, but in order to have a trained cataloger, it was nec-

essary to dismiss an attendant who was there by political appointment when the present administration came in, and not because of any preparation for the work. Since the library is under the civil service law of the state, the dismissed attendant called on the civil service commission to defend what she thought were her rights in the matter. The commission therefore brought State-librarian Woods to trial to make him prove his charge of incompetency against the attendant.

Those in charge of the library testified that the attendant in question could not perform the duties assigned her satisfactorily, was not acquainted with the methods of classification, cataloging, etc., in general use, and that they considered her incompetent for the work. The civil service board, however, took the position that she was not more incompetent than she had ever been, and if she were incompetent, the others there were incompetent from a civil service point of view, also, and that she should therefore be re-instated and receive her salary for the two months of her exclusion.

The order was also issued that all employes of the State library who had not taken the civil service examination should report in March for such an examination by the civil service board and on the results of that examination alone, should stand, the question of competency or incompetency. Natural ability, appearance, personality, and experience can not be found out by six or by a dozen questions under civil service rules, and yet they are prime requisites in library service.

New Jersey where state civil service interferes with educational work as it is carried on in libraries, the question of securing good people for the work is a hard one, tho fortunately thus far in the new attempt to better things in the state library, thanks to other reasons than the natural course of events, it has been done.

Zeal without knowledge in "reformers" is as often as not, as bad as knowledge without zeal.

Death's Toll from A. L. A.

There seems to be a specially severe drain on library workers through the visits of the Grim Messenger in the last year, as month after month is recorded the passing of one and another of those who have done good service in the library cause. This month there are three deaths to record.

F. A. Hutchins

The death of Frank Avery Hutchins of Wisconsin, January 25, 1914, removed from association with his fellow workers one whose contribution to the development of library work in the Middle West was very great, passing that of any other of his contemporaries.

Practically all his life after reaching manhood was spent in library service. While interested in newspaper and educational work, he did much to develop a library spirit in Wisconsin, and when, in 1891, he became superintendent of township libraries in the state education department, the course of his after-life was shaped for library extension. In fulfilling his duties to the township libraries, he became impressed with the vast areas in Wisconsin that were without the advantage of books.

About this time, the traveling libraries then being established in New York state, attracted his attention. It seemed to him the modus operandi of book distribution in rural districts had been discovered. He interested the late Senator J. H. Stout of Menominee, in the idea, and these two for several years, laid foundations deep and sure for the splendid system of traveling libraries which afterwards grew to such proportions in that state.

Under Mr Hutchins' influence, other men of wealth in Wisconsin became interested in similar systems for other parts of the state and traveling libraries became a fixed idea for the whole state. A bill introduced by Senator Stout, and passed successfully in 1895, formed the beginning of the library work of Wisconsin which has since assumed such proportions. Mr Hutchins was the first secretary of the commission, and for

seven years, devoted so much of his time and strength to the work that he was compelled to resign in 1904, broken in health.

But by this time, most of the ideals which he had for the commission work had been realized; the library school had become one of the fixed labors of the commission, the traveling libraries were on a solid basis, legislative reference work was established by law, and all had been placed in the hands of persons competent to carry them on to success. Later, as rest restored his health, he became connected with the Extension department of the University of Wisconsin where he did fine work also, until about a year ago, when he was again stricken, ill-health continuing till his death.

He was a man who had the unreserved love and respect of all who came in contact with him. Fearless yet fair, gentle yet great, he carried through to satisfactory fruition the library work in his state. While he was heartily in favor of library development, he was strongly opposed to considering it a charitable or eleemosynary institution. A notable incident illustrating this occurred at a librarian's round table at the meeting of the American library association at Magnolia, where, after listening to the recital of a number of persons of efforts to raise money for library purposes, in a short but almost passionate speech, he decried such efforts, finishing his address with these words:

As for myself, from this time forth, I shall refuse to accept as worthy, ten cent supper efforts at establishing libraries. The library is an institution of dignity and service. It does not deserve to be starved by any community which it serves, and I for one, shall not help to put it in the position of a beggar.

No one was ever freer from self-seeking than Mr Hutchins and much work which has been lauded to the credit of others, owed its foundation and development to his quiet but persistent efforts in establishing it.

He was a moving spirit in many worthy movements in addition to library work. The Red Cross, State parks and other progressive causes owe much to his endeavors.

Mr. Hutchins was a gentleman, a lover of books, an indefatigable worker, an unselfish patriot, a lovable soul.

William C. Kimball

The death of William C. Kimball, a valuable factor in library development in the state of New Jersey, has brought out expressions of universal deep regret from those who knew Mr Kimball professionally and personally in his work.

Mr Kimball was born in Massachusetts in 1847. He went to Passaic, N. J., in 1887, where, until his death, he took an active interest in the affairs of the town. He was the first president of the Passaic board of trade. He was largely instrumental in the establishment of the Public library of Passaic, in 1894. Under his direction the Peter Reade library was built in the mill section of Passaic and branches established throughout the city.

He was always zealous and untiring in his efforts to advance the library interests of his adopted city and state. Largely through his personal efforts, the New Jersey public library association was formed in 1891. He believed that greater results could be accomplished through organized than individual efforts, and that frequent meetings of librarians would be of advantage to all.

His experience showed him that the field was too large to be covered by voluntary organization, that recognition by the state was necessary, and so almost entirely through his efforts, the New Jersey public library commission was created. Mr Kimball was fittingly appointed one of the first members of the commission, and served as chairman until his death.

Mr. Kimball served in the Council of the American library association and as a member of important committees. He was one of three trustees of the Carnegie endowment fund of the American library association, a member of the Board of trustees of the Public library of Passaic, N. J., and of the New Jersey public library commission.

The New Jersey public library commission, the Passaic public library serv-

ice, his business associates in Passaic, a multitude of personal friends, feel his loss keenly. A number of associations of which he was a member have passed resolutions of respect. The New Jersey public library commission issued a very fitting appreciation of Mr Kimball and his work, and passed the following vote:

His death has deprived the state of a faithful, intelligent and indefatigable public servant, the library interests of New Jersey of an earnest champion, and the members of the Commission of not only an able, enthusiastic and devoted chairman, but also of a beloved and respected friend and associate.

The Board of trustees of the Passaic public library recorded the following:

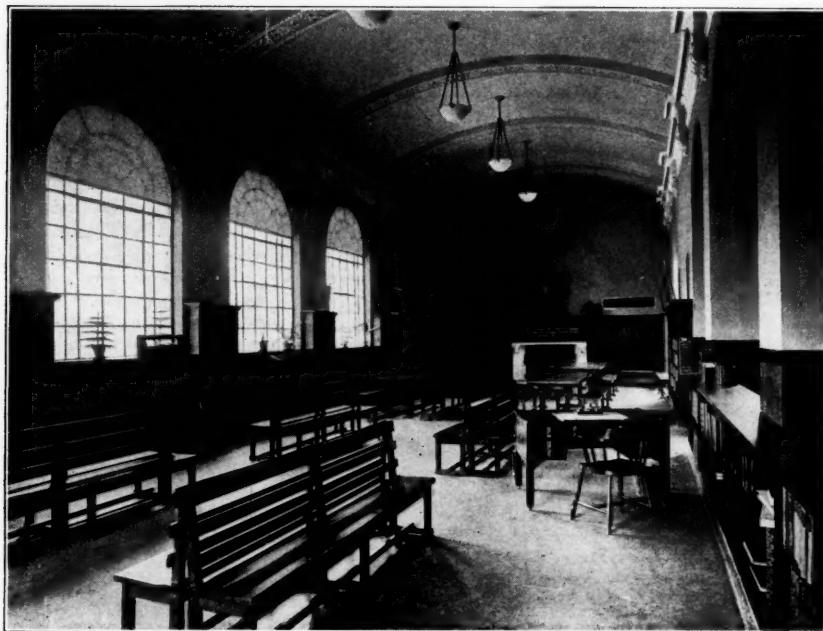
To Mr Kimball, more than any other man, was due the wonderful growth of library work in Passaic during recent years. He was untiring in his efforts for its betterment and his example was an incentive to all his associates. In the death of Mr Kimball the city loses an able officer who was a power for good in the community; the library a sympathetic and indefatigable worker, and the trustees a friend whose kind heart and good deeds will long be cherished in loving memory.

Mrs Lyman P. Osborn

News has come of the death of Mrs Lyman P. Osborn, librarian of the Peabody historical society, Peabody, Mass., on February 11.

Mrs Osborn was one of the library standbys for a good many years in the social side of the annual meetings of the American library association, and as a member of the post-conference trip, she endeared herself always to the members. A refined, lovable and lovely woman, her influence and sympathy have been for and with the best that such intimate association brings forth, and the news of her death will be a painful shock to many who had come to lean very strongly on her kindly, courteous personality.

She was practically the founder of the Peabody historical society, and its curator and librarian since its inception in 1896. She joined the A. L. A. in 1900, and had been a member of the Massachusetts library club for many years. Her husband, Lyman P. Osborn, librarian of Peabody institute library, who alone survives her, will have the deep sympathy of their many friends.



Benches Instead of Chairs

George H. Locke, chief-librarian of the Public library of Toronto, has been making a special study of children's rooms. He is trying an experiment of substituting benches for chairs and giving table space only to those who are seriously studying. He was called on to defend the proposition during the Midwinter meetings in Chicago, and expressed his belief that it would work.

In sending a picture of the new children's room just opened up, he says:

Just to prove that we have the courage of our convictions over here I am sending you a photograph of the children's room in the Davencourt branch. It is not perfect. We don't believe in perfection over here. We believe in *going on* to perfection, but this is a mile post on the way. The lack of books on the shelves results from the excessive popularity of this branch. Even moving picture shows have to issue free tickets to children to try to induce patronage in this district.

This is a plan which is followed very largely in children's rooms in English libraries, but not in any children's room

in America outside of Toronto. It may mark a departure, for the writer is frank to acknowledge a preference for separate seating for the reading children in the library.

He says:

I prefer benches, first, because children are restless and do not wish to sit still for any length of time. It is difficult for them to get in and out of a chair, and it is difficult for them not to upset the chair. They have no trouble in getting in, and out, and over benches. Then again, children are social creatures and they like to look on books together. Three children can very easily look on a book when they are seated on benches.

One reason why I have so few tables is, that I find that the children like to pick up picture books, glance through them and then go and pick up others. There is a continual movement on the part of the very young children, therefore I put benches in that part of the room where are the purely picture books, which are not accessioned but merely used to interest the children. In this way I have in one part the very restless ones, and the others may sit at the tables and not be so disturbed.

The experiment will be watched with interest.

A. L. A. Committee on Binding.
Recommendations for use of cloth and leather

Since there has recently appeared a statement from a library binder that leather was the proper material with which to bind all books, no matter how they were to be used, it seems only fair that librarians should know exactly the recommendations of the Binding Committee on this important point. The recommendations advocated by the committee can be summed up in three brief rules.

1. Always use leather on books which are to receive hard usage.
2. Never use leather on books which will be seldom used.
3. In case of doubt give preference to cloth.

It follows from these rules that fiction and juvenile books should be bound in leather, except in localities where experience has demonstrated that cloth is better. In view of the experience of many libraries during the last ten years there is no doubt in the minds of the committee but that leather is best for such books, and that a good grade of cowhide is good enough for this purpose.

Reference books, especially those which are heavy, such as dictionaries, encyclopaedias, etc., should, of course, be bound in leather.

It follows furthermore from these rules that practically all periodicals should be bound in cloth. There are very few libraries in which the use of bound periodicals for reference purposes justifies binding them in leather. There may be a large use of periodicals as a whole but the use that any one volume will have year in and year out is very slight. Since the cloth which meets the specifications of the Bureau of Standards has been on the market, librarians have had at their disposal a material which, in view of the tests made before the specifications were drawn up, can almost be guaranteed to last as long as posterity will wish it to. We know that cloth which is very inferior in quality has been on the backs of books for over 70 years and is still in excellent condition.

It is reasonable, therefore, to suppose that cloth made according to these specifications will last practically forever in the temperate zone.

While we know this about cloth we cannot be equally sure that leather will last nearly as long. We know positively that leather which is not free-from-acid is sure to deteriorate under conditions which will be found in all libraries. We know that leathers free-from-acid will last much longer, but how long is a matter of conjecture. Furthermore, it has been discovered that in many cases leathers which have been advertised to be free-from-acid have been found on analysis to contain as high as 1% of free sulphuric acid.

There is no question but that a leather-bound book has a much better appearance than one bound in cloth, but in view of the facts the Committee on Binding believes that the use of leather, except on books much used, is to be strongly condemned.

Concerning Periodicals
Report of the Massachusetts committee

The committee appointed at the fall meeting of the Massachusetts library club unanimously reports the following resolution:

The members of the Massachusetts library club view with strong disapproval the alarming decadence in tone of many of the leading American periodicals, and emphatically protest against the tendency recently so manifest to cater to sordid sensationalism, indecent suggestion, and to perverted taste.

The committee has had several meetings, at which have been discussed the merits and demerits of certain leading periodicals, and it has prepared a list of 50 magazines, which are recommended for small libraries, arranged in groups of 10, to cover the demands of libraries subscribing to 10, 20, 30, 40, or 50 periodicals. This list it is proposed to print in the next issue of the Massachusetts library club *Bulletin*, and also the committee suggests that the State library commission publish it for distribution among the smaller libraries of the state. It is not to be understood that all of the

reputable journals are included. The list is limited by the number chosen, and by the plan by which the committee endeavors to put in each group of 10, magazines which should appeal to the various classes of a community. A list has also been made of 20 magazines, covering special subjects of a more or less technical nature. One or more of this special list could be inserted in the place of one in each group of 10, according to the demands of each locality.

GEORGE H. TRIPP,
CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,
HERBERT W. FISON,
GERTRUDE LOCKWOOD,
FRANCES RATHBONE COE,

Group 1

Atlantic	\$ 4.00
Harper's Magazine	4.00
National Geographic Magazine	2.50
Outing	3.00
Outlook	3.00
Popular Mechanics	1.50
Saint Nicholas	3.00
Scientific American	3.00
Survey	3.00
Woman's Home Companion	1.50

Group 2

Century	4.00
Delineator	1.50
Garden Magazine	1.50
Hints	1.00
Independent, New York	3.00
Journal of Education	2.50
Literary Digest	3.00
Nation	3.00
World's Work	3.00
Youth's Companion	2.00

Group 3

American Homes and Gardens	3.00
Boston Cooking School Magazine	1.00
Current Opinion	3.00
International Studio	5.00
Modern Priscilla	1.00
North American Review	4.00
Review of Reviews	3.00
School Arts Magazine	2.00
Scribner's Magazine	3.00
Technical World	1.50

Group 4

American City	2.00
American Magazine	1.50
Bulletin of the Pan American Union Republics	3.00
Craftsman	3.00
Dial	2.00
Etude	1.50
Illustrated London News [£2]	7.75-10
Popular Science Monthly	3.00
Scientific American Supplement	5.00
System	2.00

Group 5

Education	3.00
English Review [12/6]	3.50
Forum	2.50
House Beautiful	3.00
Living Age	6.00
Popular Electricity	1.50
Punch [18/6]	4.40-5 or
Life	5.00
Rudder	2.00
Spectator	6.25-8
Travel	3.00

Special list (20)

Aeronautics	3.00
American Architect	10.00
American Photography	1.50
American Poultry Journal	1.00
Annals of American Academy	5.00
Bird Lore	1.00
Bon Ton	3.50
Country Life in America	4.00
Engineering Magazine	3.00
Forest and Stream	3.00
Gleanings in Bee Culture	1.00
Keith's Magazine	2.00
Keramic Studio	4.00
Manual Training Magazine	1.50
Missionary Review of the World	2.50
Musician	1.50
National Municipal Review	5.00
Political Science Quarterly	3.00
Printing Art	3.00
Yachting	2.00

Plans for An American Federation for Intercommunication

Some preliminary steps are being taken with a view to the possibility of organizing an American Federation for Intercommunication, to promote ways and means to facilitate the exchange of useful information regarding all subjects without restriction. This would aim to create some affiliation or interrelationship between various information and research bureaus now in existence, among which may be mentioned the following:

Index Office, Chicago, just recently incorporated, A. G. S. Josephson, Secretary. Formal announcements not yet made, but membership will probably be by subscription to actual services. The office will, on request and for reasonable compensation, undertake to make special researches on subjects of art, science, commerce, industry, etc.

Boston Coöperative Information Bureau, 491 Boylston St., Boston, Mass.:

G. W. Lee, President. This Bureau was organized in 1912 to aid in the ascertainment of sources of information whether printed or written or only as mental equipment. The Bureau's experience has led to the belief that there should be similar bureaus established in other American cities.

Cosmopolitan Correspondence Club, Milwaukee, Wis.; W. Schultz, Jr., manager. Established in 1900; re-organized in 1908. Has a list of over 8,000 persons residing in foreign countries, interested in an exchange of communications with foreigners in one form or another. This would constitute a splendid nucleus for a most comprehensive plan. Official organ: *The Globe Trotter*, quarterly. Membership (formerly) \$2 yearly. (Has new plans under consideration.)

The Cosmopolitan Student, edited by Fred B. Foulk, 611 East Liberty street, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Monthly, 32 pages, 75 cents per year. Will start a "Department for intercommunication," in March, 1914. Official organ of the association of Cosmopolitan clubs (U. S.).

Bureau of Social Research, 171 Westminster St., Providence, R. I. Director: Carol Aronovici.

Bureau of Municipal and Legislative Research, of the University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. Herman Brauer, in charge.

Notes and Queries department, of *Scientific American*, 361 Broadway, N. Y. City.

Bibliographical department of *Boston Evening Transcript*, Boston, Mass.

Congressional Information Bureau, Southern Building, Washington, D. C. "A reference bureau on national affairs."

Bureau of Corporate and Financial Information, District Bank Building, Washington, D. C.

General Service Corporation, 52 Wall St., New York City.

* * * * *

The above named and other similar agencies would, no doubt, find much of mutual benefit in a general clearing house under the auspices of an American Federation for Intercommunication.

The headquarters should be centrally located, for obvious reasons. Chicago is, of course, the ideal place geographically and because of its excellent library facilities.

We might look forward to an International Federation for Intercommunication. A list of some of the European bureaus and periodicals was given in an article on "Research and Intercommunication," by the writer, in *The Dial* (Chicago) for July 16, 1912, to which some additions could now be made.

International Correspondence Alliance Kosmos, Amsterdam, Holland, was founded in 1898, "sanctioned by Royal Decrees, 1899, 1902." Its object is "to offer pleasure and advantage to its members by providing them with correspondence connections in as many parts of the world as possible."

We must not forget the significant fact that the old London *Notes and queries* (weekly, 1849—to date), announces that it has more than 1,100 constant contributors. Is it not reasonable to believe that some general agency of absolutely unrestricted scope would soon be able to establish itself on a firm basis and become of great utility in the securing and dissemination of useful knowledge? If it could have an official organ appearing monthly, it would unquestionably perform a needed service to librarians, students, investigators of all kinds, tourists, collectors, etc.

EUGENE F. MCPIKE.
Chicago, Feb. 11, 1914,

Bibuphote

Eugene Morel, librarian Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, has invented what he calls the "bibuphote," really a book film. The invention is expected to revolutionize study and the work of students throughout the world. The invention makes it possible to print fifty ordinary pages of reading matter on a film about the size of a postal card. Librarians all over the world will be urged to take up the invention, for in this way many rare works will be placed so as to be easily accessible to the student. A screen is placed on a table and the reproduction of the film is thrown on this.

Atlantic City Meeting

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania library club and the New Jersey library association will be held at Atlantic City, March 6-7. The meetings will be held at the Hotel Chelsea, where special arrangements have been made.

A special meeting of the New Jersey library association will be held on Friday, March 6, at 2:30 p. m. The following program will be presented under the chairmanship of Sarah B. Askew, president of the New Jersey library association:

The library militant, Lutie E. Stearns, Wisconsin.

The library and the movies, Louise Connolly.

Newark public library.

Possibilities of the exhibit in a small library, Mabel R. Haines, Summit public library.

Social activities of the library, Adele Lupton.

Rahway public library.

Work with school libraries in a small town, Agnes Miller, Princeton public library.

Self-circulation, Howard E. Hughes, Public library, Trenton.

In addition to business meetings, there will be three sessions with general programs. The first will be under the chairmanship of Dr Cyrus Adler, president of Dropsie college and president of the Pennsylvania library club. An address of welcome by Mayor Riddle, Atlantic City, will be followed by an address on "Efficiency" by Professor John L. Stewart, Lehigh university, and an illustrated lecture on "Art in education," by J. Liberty Tadd, director of the Public industrial arts school, Philadelphia.

The second session will be presided over by Sarah B. Askew, president of the New Jersey library association. An address, "Necessary qualifications for a librarian," Alice S. Tyler, Director Western Reserve university library school, will be followed by "Book verse and other verse," Edmund Pearson, *Boston Transcript*.

The third session will be held under the chairmanship of Dr Frank P. Hill, librarian of Brooklyn public library. The following addresses will be given: "Are

you poetical or practical?" Professor Max Eastman, Columbia university. "The writings of the ancient Egyptians," illustrated with lantern slides, Professor W. Max Müller, Ph. D., University of Pennsylvania.

The Oxford Meeting

The preliminary notice of the annual meeting of the Library Association to be held at Oxford, England, August 31-September 4, 1914, has been issued. The meeting will be held at Oxford by invitation of the curators of the Bodleian library and the Mayor and Corporation of the city. The Rt. Honorable, the Earl of Malmesbury, D. L., M. A., C. A., is president of the association, H. R. Tedder, F. S. A., chairman of the council, and L. Stanley Jast, honorary secretary.

The following items from the preliminary notice are of interest:

Several subjects have been chosen for discussion on the program. In each case, a member and a visitor will be invited to begin the debate, which will then be opened for general discussion. The following are among the subjects:

The place of the library in the university.

The legitimate field of the public municipal library.

The duties of a library committee-man or trustee.

Modern influences antagonistic to the reading of books.

Principles of book selection and book rejection.

The subjects of special papers may be as follows:

The development of the Library Association since the first annual meeting in Oxford, 1878.

Modern methods of accelerating supplies of books to readers.

The history of the title-page (with lantern slides and an exhibition in the Bodleian galleries.)

Historical extension of Bodleian buildings (with lantern slides).

Oxford in literature.

National libraries for the blind.

Recent developments in library planning.

Other topics may be introduced.

Arrangements are being made for exhibits by local publishing firms and other industries connected with library matters, especially the Clarendon Press.

The program will receive attention in the morning sessions, and excursions to

points of interest in the city and surroundings are contemplated for the afternoon. Among the latter will be excursions to the Bodleian library, College libraries, City library, castle built by first Norman governor of Oxford, the Cathedral, the colleges, Blenheim palace, Iffley (with its fine Norman church) and Nuneham, seat of the Rt. Honorable L. Harcourt, M. P. (the last two reached by river.) Receptions by the university and city authorities, a conversazione in the Ashmolean museum, an Association dinner and other entertainments are being arranged for the evening. It is hoped that the colleges will find themselves able to take in some, at least, of the guests from abroad. Lists of hotels and lodging houses with prices will be issued.

The council and local committee desire to take the earliest opportunity to extend the most cordial invitation and welcome to their colleagues across the sea. Intimations of intention to be present should be sent in as early as possible. Letters and other communications in regard to attendance, accommodations and proposed excursions should be addressed to Librarian, Bodleian library, or Librarian, City library, Oxford.

Letters on subjects and papers on programs should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Publication committee, Henry Bond, or to Honorary Secretary, L. Stanley Jast, Caxton Hall, Westminster, S. W.

Foreign Travel Arrangements

Arrangements will be made under the direction of F. W. Faxon, Boston, the University Travel Bureau for a party of librarians to be conducted to Leipzig, leaving Boston July 11, or New York July 9, by the Southern route, by the Azores and Gibralter, landing at Naples, going north through Italy and Germany, terminating the trip at Leipzig, August 18. If it is desired, arrangements will be made for a side trip including Berlin, Frankfort, the Rhine, Paris, reaching Oxford August 31.

The total cost of the trip from Boston, July 11, or New York July 9, to Leipzig, August 18, transportation to

London and return steamer, \$370. The side trip spoken of between Leipzig and Oxford will cost an additional \$100. As reservations must be made both going and returning as soon as possible, prompt response is asked from those contemplating such a trip at the earliest moment possible.

For further information, address F. W. Faxon, Chairman travel committee, 83 Francis St., Fenway, Boston.

Arrangements will be made under the direction of J. C. M. Hanson of University of Chicago for a party to take the northern trip, through the Scandinavian countries, Holland and Belgium to reach Leipzig at the same time the other party does.

Arrangements for side trips can be made, if desired. The cost of this trip from New York to Leipzig, covering all expense, and tickets thence to London by way of Cologne, Brussels and Ostend; London to Oxford and Liverpool and return passage to Montreal, \$370.

It will be necessary in this case also to know just what is expected and what reservations to make as soon as possible. Address Mr. Hanson, at Harper library, University of Chicago.

New York Library Association

At the meeting of the executive committee of the New York library association it was decided to accept Dr Schurman's invitation to hold the twenty-fourth annual meeting at Cornell university, Ithaca, N. Y., the week of Sept. 6, 1914. The earlier date will accommodate many of the school librarians and it is expected that this meeting will be a large one.

The secretary was directed to prepare a circular encouraging membership in the association. This is to be sent to non-members who are library workers in the state.

There was \$150 granted to the committee on institutes to further its work in conducting library institutes throughout the state.

HARRIET R. PECK,
Secretary.

Library Meetings

Chicago—The Library club enjoyed a most instructive and interesting lecture on "Original sources of historical research in Chicago," by Professor Dodd of the University of Chicago. He located important material relating to various periods of American history through family letters and other written material in a number of family collections which are as yet private property. Professor Dodd suggested in a tactful way that it would be a praiseworthy work for the club to prepare a list of such material and in that way lead the owners of it to place it in one of the great libraries of Chicago for the use of the general public. A professor from the South had found more reliable first hand material bearing on the transfer of the Spanish claims and on the Civil War than anywhere else in a long search. The lecture was thoroughly enjoyed.

Miss Ahern presented the matter of the Leipzig exhibition so strongly that by unanimous vote the club gave \$25 to the committee.

Long Island, N. Y.—The regular meeting of the Long Island library club was held at Pratt Institute free library on the evening of January 15. It was purely social in character for which Mr Stevens, chairman of the Committee on arrangements had prepared a most entertaining and varied program of readings.

Miss Hassler, president of the club, Mrs Barry, Miss Rathbone, Mr Stevens, Miss Hitchler furnished a delightful program.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the chairman on arrangements for the very delightful evening and for the hospitality of Pratt institute when the club adjourned to the class room for refreshments. **ELEANOR ROPER, Secretary.**

Massachusetts—On January 22, 1914, the eighty-third meeting of the Massachusetts library club was held at Somerville, with President Drew B. Hall in the chair.

The round table conducted by Mrs Coe and Miss Williams brought out many new features in regard to both classification and reference work.

Reference work

Miss Williams said that the object of the reference department of the Somerville library, is, to prove that all books are reference books in a broader sense of the word; that they are different in degree, not in kind, from other books. In working out her idea she has found that "reference and information work has at least three different aspects: social, the effort to create the proper atmosphere, guidance in the choice of light reading; serious research; and suggestive and instructive work." In order to socialize the books: first one half of the "reference books" formerly so called, have been put into the circulating department of the library (there is no reference room at Somerville); second, general reference books have been put into one section by themselves; third, reference books dealing with specific subjects, have been put at the beginning of their classes with the circulating books, e. g., all 600 reference books go at the beginning of Useful arts.

The results of such an arrangement after two weeks' test at Somerville have been encouraging. There is of course a demand on the part of the public for the circulation of reference books. This has been compiled with, without ensuing disaster. Miss Williams recognizes the fact that the working out of such a scheme will differ according to the individual needs of each library. She made some helpful suggestions as to carrying the work on, indicating that a special loan system for charging reference books would be necessary, also that to keep a list of questions asked and a special loan record would be indispensable from the point of view of the worker.

The questions asked Miss Williams proved the interest with which her ideas were received. Were encyclopedias, year books, French and German dictionaries, the Dictionary of national biography circulated? To which the answer was, yes, if one's resources warranted it. Were 2c fines sufficient? Yes, but overdue notices were sent immediately. Were answers to difficult reference questions kept? Yes, Miss Forrest of Milton

here pointed out that to keep such answers on colored cards and to incorporate them into the regular catalog was most helpful.

The changes made in the Dewey classification as used by the Somerville library and as explained by Mrs Coe were accorded an equally interested hearing. The circumstances under which Mrs Coe works are these: she need consider only the Book room collection, limited to 45,000 volumes; her aim must be to keep this an up-to-date working collection, to retire superseded books as fast as better ones or more recent editions are added, to lean on the great libraries of Boston and Cambridge for the historic background, special collections or needs of the special student; her classification therefore can be broad, supplemented by specific subject headings in the card catalog. This is the scheme in part:

The changes are:—

(a) History and travel classified together in all countries where the amount of history does not justify a chronologic subdivision. In such countries, as, say England, travel is classified with the last current period of history, as 942.08—Victorian period.

(b) English and American literature classified together, i. e.

821—English and American poetry.
822—English and American drama.
823—History and criticism of the novel.
824—English and American *prose* (including essays, miscellany and such letters as do not belong in biography).

825—English and American oratory.
826—Omitted.
827—English and American humor.
828—Omitted.

(c) 1. Individual biography arranged under 9=biography alphabetized by the person written about.

(c) 2. Collective biography, 920, omitted and each collective biography classified under the subject of the collection, as Biography of inventors=608, etc. Sometimes this has to be forced, but usually it falls into place very naturally.

(d) Reference books which relate to

a special subject, classified at the beginning of the main division, i. e., Reference 100s, Reference 300s, etc. The general reference collection therefore includes books used by more than one class of readers, as cyclopedias, dictionaries, atlases, biographical dictionaries, etc., etc. It is hoped by this plan to relate more closely reference books and those for circulation and to tempt the general reader to use them more. They are lent for a limited period, if not in great demand, but only through the reference librarian.

Miss Brown, organizer for the Massachusetts library commission, endorsed the scheme as tending to simplify classification. Books should fall naturally into a group, rather than be forced into a logical division of a subject.

A great many questions and a good deal of general discussions followed as to the practical working out of details.

Mr Belden presided over still another round table—Ways and means of professional development.

Miss Hooper, librarian of the Brookline public library, made clear to begin with that she believes nothing of greater help in professional development than the library itself, the rewards of work in such a place she considers tremendous, instead of giving all, librarians receive greater benefits from the people whom they serve than they can ever hope to confer. Mutual understanding and friendliness between fellow workers and between departments will also tend to bring out the best in each individual member of a library staff; "a librarian herself can do much by her own attitude toward her staff to promote this condition, especially through her own friendly relations with them, by avoiding as far as possible the exercise of authority in unessential details, and by respecting individual judgment in her assistants wherever it can be found;—no person of original and independent mind and mature judgment wants to work continually in leading strings."

Far from considering that high salaries will produce efficiency, Miss Hooper believes that capability in an assistant once proved, the better salary will, or ought to follow.

"As for higher technical training in library methods we value that, but above all else we value character and personal fitness for the work, and the training of school and college education in library methods."

Mr Shaw of Worcester, Mr Wellman of Springfield, Mr Wadlin of Boston, Miss Donnelly of Simmons college, Mr Fison of Malden, Mr Tripp of New Bedford, and Mr Hall of Somerville took part in the discussion which followed. Various opinions as to the function of the library schools and library training were expressed. The schools are the avenue for a great many who would like to enter the work. Again librarians frequently prefer to train their assistants in their own ways. Miss Donnelly in speaking of the ideals of library work, added to the undisputed qualifications of good health, character, good disposition, and intellectual gifts which are necessary in the make up of the best library assistants,—accuracy, ability to work without supervision i. e., to take a suggestion and to develop it, and ability, not only willingness, to be shifted around and thus to develop into an all-round person. Other opinions varied from "it is a question of money when you get right down to business," to "the whole situation resolves itself round the books." Mr Hall's suggestions were practical, looking as they did toward the circumstances under which the best work on the part of assistants is possible; he would have labor and hours of labor attractive, and he would have some sort of retirement system for library workers as well as for teachers and for employees of the state including those in the State library. For such an end, in his opinion, the Library Club ought to be represented in the legislature—to make a beginning towards better library laws, better professional standing and inclusion in any general retirement scheme.

Schools and club work and the public library was the topic under discussion at the round table conducted by Miss Crain and Miss Lovis.

The program of this section included the names of Mr Clarke, superintendent of schools in Somerville, Miss Lovis the

high school librarian, Miss Thuman of New Bedford, Miss Guerriere, librarian of the Boston North End branch library, and Miss Lockwood of Brookline.

Mr Clarke to make clear the situation between the schools and the library from the school standpoint asked the question "What are the schools trying to do?" His answer was, Trying to acquaint the child with the various activities of life. For instance, if a child is to know anything of shop practice, it is most desirable that he be allowed to work in the shop as part time on his school schedule. Or if he is to study civics, it is desirable for him really to see demonstrated certain municipal activities. In the same way the library should be a sort of laboratory in which art, literature, history and other subjects are demonstrated through books. Miss Lovis, the high school librarian, is appointed by the school board from the library staff, and her work is carried on under the library's direction. One half her salary comes from the appropriation for the schools. She spends half of her time in the high school during school hours, the rest of her time in the public library at the disposal of teachers and students. Her duties include visiting the schools to get acquainted with teachers and pupils, discussing with the teachers the kind of illustrative and supplementary material the library can supply in given courses, making suggestions to pupils on outside reading, sending books on deposit, and talking upon how to use the library.

Miss Guerriere outlined the work of her boys' and girls' clubs. However, she is of the opinion that club work is outside the province of the library, since to be well conducted, it needs more time than a library can give.

Miss Lockwood agreed that libraries have no time for clubs, nevertheless they have been her best means of subduing the gangs of boys and girls that have overrun the children's room.

The first business of the afternoon session was the report of Mr Belden for the Committee on coöperation. It was accepted by the Club and is practically as follows:

Report of committee on coöperation

The entire state is divided into library groups containing from three to twelve libraries in each group.

Fifty-five local secretaries are serving in the work of coöperation and their activities cover the entire state.

Reports of progress are as follows:

Eight local secretaries have done nothing. Five local secretaries have held organization meetings in their own libraries, and 17 local secretaries report that they have either written or visited the libraries in their group and that the much desired personal relationship is being developed.

In one group bi-monthly meetings have been arranged for the year. This same group has also effected a system of change of library periodicals. Another group is to hold a Round-Table conference once every four to six weeks; another is to hold a conference once every three months. One letter speaks of this work as being much needed and that it will be sure to prove invaluable. Another says that the libraries are glad of the opportunity to submit reference questions, problems in classification, and cataloging. One of the larger libraries invites the smaller libraries to visit and inspect the books received on approval for a period of a week once each month. The letters are full of happy suggestions which will be of aid to the committee on coöperation in extending its work.

It is hoped to have a place in the program at the spring meeting of the club, when a session may be devoted to local secretaries and their work. The committee feels that its existence has been amply justified and that its continuance is desirable.

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,
Chairman.

Mr Wellman of Springfield made the report for the committee on the State library. It is given herewith:
To the members of the Massachusetts library club:

Last spring Charles F. D. Belden, president of the Massachusetts library club, appointed a committee consisting of J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., John G. Moulton, Katharine P. Loring, Robert K. Shaw,

Horace G. Wadlin, Harlan H. Ballard, Drew B. Hall, Louisa M. Hooper, Alice G. Chandler, George H. Tripp, and Hiller C. Wellman, chairman, "to suggest how the State library of Massachusetts can better serve the interest of the free public libraries of the Commonwealth." Meetings of this committee were held at Williamstown on May 23, 1913, and at Boston on January 21, 1914, on which occasions the matter was discussed at length.

The policy of the State library was defined more than half a century ago, before a single public library existed in this country. This policy has been followed consistently with little change, and under it one of the most admirable legislative libraries in the United States has been developed. But in the meantime the great public library movement has spread throughout the country; and in many cases the state library has been found to be a natural and vital keystone to the whole public library system.

In considering the possible relation of our own State library to the public libraries of the Commonwealth, your committee are agreed that radical innovations involving large expenditures are at present wholly unnecessary. But nevertheless it feels that some definite coördination between the State library and the public libraries is desirable which will permit of the development of such aid and leadership on the part of the State library as experience shall prove to be wise, economical and effective.

To suggest, for the sake of example, some specific ways in which the State library might be of wider service with very little, if any, additional cost to the Commonwealth—it is the sense of the committee that the State library might appropriately aid the public libraries by offering to furnish information, particularly on municipal and sociological questions, which would obviate to some extent the duplication of reference work; and that it also might appropriately offer to lend books to public libraries so far as may seem feasible and expedient, supplying particularly books which the little library is unable to own, and especially expensive or comparatively little-used books, thus preventing much needless and wasteful duplication. Many such books are so seldom used in the small libraries that a single copy available at the State library would suffice. On the other hand, the same book is often used in a large library too frequently to permit of its being loaned to the small library.

It is the sense of your committee, therefore, that the general law under which the State library was established and is maintained, should be amended so as to give the trustees of the State library legal authority to develop its service for the bene-

fit of the free public libraries of the Commonwealth in such manner as shall seem wise.

Mr. Wellman read also a minority report in the form of a letter received from Mr. Ballard of Pittsfield.

The action of the committee was accepted and the committee discharged. A committee of five was appointed to take up the matters decided upon, of which Geo. H. Tripp of New Bedford is chairman.

The following report of the Committee on periodicals was read by Mr. Tripp of New Bedford and accepted:

(See page ——)

Mr. Bryant speaking for the Library commission presented resolutions which were adopted, favoring the recommendations of the Public library commissioners to the state legislature for extending aid through the commission to the small libraries of the state and to schools and foreign born population by an increase of appropriation. A committee was authorized to enlist interest by all legitimate means.

Mr. Faxon announced the A. L. A. plans as far as completed for the meeting in Washington, D. C., May 25-30, 1914. He also expressed his willingness to receive suggestions on any travel plans.

Dr. Charles L. Noyes, of the Board of Trustees of the Somerville public library, read a Parable. In it he expressed his own happy faith in the laws of continuity and of complementariness as they applied to all forms of work more particularly in this case, as they apply to the work and the workers of the library.

A motion for a vote of thanks to the club's hosts and hostesses for its delightful entertainment was heartily carried.

The annual dinner of the club was held at the Exchange Club, Boston. Mrs. Christobel W. Kidder read delightfully "Dolly reforming herself," by Henry Arthur Jones.

EUGENIA M. HENRY,
Recorder.

Pennsylvania—The January meeting of the Pennsylvania library club was held in the auditorium of the Dropsie college

of Hebrew and cognate learning, on Monday evening, January 12, 1914, Dr. Cyrus Adler, president of the club, in the chair. After the usual routine of business, Dr. Adler (who is also president of Dropsie college) gave a most interesting talk on how and why the college was founded, also describing at some length the scope of the work, the college being a post-graduate school, in which instruction is offered in Biblical and Rabbinical literatures, in the Semitic languages and in Jewish history. The library contains over 9,000 volumes and is a good representative working library for the student working along these special lines. A very profitable two hours were spent by the 70 members who braved the weather.

The February meeting of the Pennsylvania library club was held on Monday evening, February 9, 1914, at the Historical society of Pennsylvania. After disposing of a few items of business, Dr. Edward J. Nolan (presiding in place of the president, Dr. Cyrus Adler, who was unavoidably absent) introduced the speaker of the evening.

Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker, who spoke on early Pennsylvania literature" in his usual inimitable manner, said "Everything that is worth while in life begins at home. All of the virtues, like charity, start when we step over the lintel of the door."

He said farther: "The literature of Pennsylvania begins with an interesting and rather dramatic character. In 1662, Peter Cornelius Plockhoy founded a settlement on the Delaware River. The socialistic ideas which Hawthorne and Thoreau attempted to carry out in practice, had its origin with Plockhoy in this settlement. Pastorius, who lived in Germantown, left a mass of writing, mostly in manuscript, although a few of his books were printed.

James Ralph, the man who of all Americans down to the time of the Revolutionary war attained the highest distinction and did the most work in English literature, was born in Philadelphia about 1700. Benjamin Franklin and Ralph were inseparable companions,

Franklin dedicating his "Liberty and necessity" to him. He was the partner of Henry Fielding, his most important work being a History of England in 21 folio volumes. Hallowell said of him that he was the most diligent historian of that period, and Smollet compares him with Robertson and Hume.

Franklin's contribution to literature, said the speaker, consists in the main of Poor Richard's Almanac and his Autobiography. Mr Pennypacker practically accused Franklin of plagiarism and insincerity in his writings, intimating that Franklin copied thoughts and expressions from other writers and speakers, presenting them as his own. He said that Franklin's Autobiography was well written, but almost immoral.

In closing, Mr Pennypacker gave a short sketch of the Historical society of Pennsylvania, saying that its collection is the finest in the United States, and worth between two and three million dollars.

An invitation to inspect the building and its treasures was much appreciated by all present.

JEAN E. GRAFFEN, Secretary.

Tennessee.—The Tennessee library association held its annual meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 1914, in the Carnegie library of Nashville.

In addition to a large local attendance there were present from out of town Marilla Waite Freeman of the Goodwyn Institute library and Charles Johnston of the Cossitt library, Memphis; Margaret Dunlap, librarian of the Chattanooga public library; Jennie E. Lauderdale of Dyersburg, former state librarian; Alice Drake, librarian of the Public library, Jackson; Lucy E. Fay, librarian of the University of Tennessee library, Knoxville; Mrs Betty Murfree, librarian of the Middle Tennessee state normal library, Murfreesboro and Mrs Dabney Sherrill, librarian Carnegie library, Brownsville.

The morning session was opened by an address of welcome by Mr G. H. Baskette, president of the Board of Trus-

tees of the Carnegie library, Nashville, and honorary president of the association. Mr Baskette said the greeting was more than a formality. It was an expression of genuine hospitality. He said there is a peculiar feeling of fellowship among librarians which gives special zest to their meetings. This is due, he thought, not alone to professional interest, but also to the fact that the librarian has a conception of his work and vision of its opportunities and possibilities for educational, social and moral advancement, which it is difficult to get communities, and often even library boards, fully to comprehend. Library work is practical, systematic and business-like, yet it is invested with a sentiment and permeated with a purpose of altruistic service which is not understood by those, who, for lack of inclination or opportunity, do not get into the heart of the library motive and meaning. For these reasons it is natural that librarians should be drawn together in a special spirit of fellowship and co-operation, and find pleasure, profit and encouragement in meetings like this.

The general theme of the day was Simplification, socialization, specialization. This theme was suggested by Miss Freeman, president of the association, who outlined the program, and presided at all sessions.

In opening the meeting, Miss Freeman said that she would translate "the three S's" of the general theme into plain Anglo-Saxon as follows: Simplification—Is there lost motion in your machinery? Socialization—Is your library a social center? Specialization—Do you reach the man on the job? These were the three questions the program of the day was intended to set us asking ourselves, perhaps to be more fully considered at future meetings.

Margaret McE. Kercheval, librarian of the Carnegie library of Nashville, read a paper on "How to simplify routine in public libraries." Cutting out all the technique possible in library work seemed to be her suggestion.

"How to simplify routine in school libraries" was discussed by Mrs Pearl

Williams Kelley, director of Library extension of the State department of public instruction. Mrs Kelley gave an interesting account of the work she is doing in the country schools of Tennessee, through the State education department, which has appropriated \$15,000 for library extension and school libraries. Mrs Kelley emphasized the value of the "three I's"—the lecture, the laboratory and the library, in the process of education.

Margaret Dunlap of the Chattanooga public library discussed "The city library as a social center." She spoke of some of the plans the Chattanooga library management had for making that institution of real social service, among them being to have the literary clubs meet in the library auditorium, and also to have weekly musicals, moving pictures, and other free entertainments that tend to the uplift of the social life.

Miss Lauderdale of Dyersburg gave a brief history of Tennessee libraries.

Miss Skeffington, librarian of the State library, Nashville, completed the morning session by a paper entitled "What the state library can do for rural centers." She spoke of the state library now having circulating libraries in 59 counties, and said that the extension work was yet in its infancy as it was planned to continue the work until there should not be a community in Tennessee that was not touched by the free circulating libraries.

Following the morning session, out-of-town members of the association were entertained by the Nashville librarians at a luncheon.

The afternoon session on Specialization was opened by a talk on the subject "How to reach special classes" by Charles D. Johnston of the Cossitt library Memphis. Mr Johnston touched upon many phases of the subject, which he said resolved itself into the one word "Publicity," and in closing described most interestingly the work of the Cossitt library with the colored population of Memphis, carried on chiefly through the colored schools.

This was followed by a paper by Alice L. Drake on "Book-selection for special classes." Miss Drake's incidental definition of an immoral book as one that lowers the spiritual temperature of the reader, or rather as one which has a spiritual influence to lessen the happiness and usefulness of the reader, led to an animated discussion.

The special work of college and normal school libraries was treated in a most valuable paper by Lucy E. Fay, librarian of the University at Knoxville. (This paper will appear in *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*.)

Miss Fay upon request of the president also spoke briefly in regard to a text book she is preparing for the instruction of normal school students in the use of libraries and books.

Discussion of the subject was led by Miss Sanders, librarian of Vanderbilt university library, and Miss Bloomstein, librarian of the George Peabody college for teachers. A general discussion followed on the relation of the librarian to the student and the college professor.

Three minute reports from many librarians on recent activities in their libraries were next heard. Mrs Murfree of the Middle Tennessee normal school library, Mrs Sherrill of the Carnegie library of Brownsville, Miss Blake and Mrs Carmack of Nashville were among those who spoke.

Miss Freeman then gave a report of the A. L. A. Kaaterskill conference covering in an interesting way the principal points of the meeting.

The president then called attention to the fact that the association may have affiliation with the American Library Association and representation in its council upon payment of annual dues of \$5.00. On motion of Mr Johnston, a resolution was carried that the Tennessee library association affiliate itself with the A. L. A.

Some slight amendments to the constitution included the re-shaping of the executive committee to be composed of the officers of the association and the president of the preceding year.

The following officers were elected: President, Lucy E. Fay, University of

Tennessee library, Knoxville; first vice-president, Margaret Dunlap, Chattanooga; second vice-president, Chas. D. Johnston, Memphis; secretary-treasurer, Margaret McE. Kercheval, Nashville.

The night session was in conjunction with the Tennessee Public School Officers association. It was called "An evening with some Tennessee authors," Selected readings from Charles Egbert Craddock, Maria Thompson Daviess, Corra Harris, John Trotwood Moore, Will Allen Dromgoole and other Tennessee authors were given.

At the close of the meeting the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the visiting members of the Tennessee library association record their appreciation of the hospitality of the Carnegie library of Nashville and extend to the librarians of Nashville a vote of thanks for the many acts of thoughtful kindness extended to them during the meeting of the association.

MARGARET MCE. KERCHEVAL,
Secretary.

Toronto, Canada—The annual meeting of the Library club of the Toronto public library was held Wednesday evening, January 21, with Winifred Barnstead in the chair. There were 58 present, representing every department of the library.

Mr Caswell, assistant-librarian of the Public library, outlined a systematic study of Canadian literature as the work for the coming year, together with some special features, such as addresses by distinguished library workers; an exhibition of the treasures of the library in old and curious books, manuscripts, etc.; an evening of unfettered liberty for the kickers and for suggestions for increasing the efficiency of the work; also a series of notes on library activities in other cities, gathered from the library periodicals and securing of an inter-change of papers and programs from similar associations. Miss Ferguson, of the Yorkville branch, gave a series of readings from her recently issued book of poems, "Maple leaves and snow flakes."

The following officers were elected: Honorary president, T. W. Banton; president, Frances Staton; vice-president, Patricia O'Connor; secretary-treasurer, Teresa G. O'Connor. Program commit-

tee, Eva Davis, Elizabeth Moir, Elfrieda Corey. Social committee, Mabel Baxter, Eloise McFayden, Marion Field. Auditor, Jennie Corcoran.

Committees of Illinois library association

In pursuance to a resolution passed at the recent meeting of the Illinois library association, the President has appointed the following committees:

Legislative committee:

Andrew Russell, Jacksonville, Ill.; Reed Green, Cairo, Ill.; H. G. Wilson, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs Robert Farson, St. Charles, Ill.; Mary B. Lindsay, Evanston, Ill.; J. L. O'Donnell, Joliet, Ill. (Chairman, trustees' association, ex-officio); F. K. W. Drury, Urbana, Ill. (President, I. L. A. ex-officio).

Committee on revision of constitution:

M. E. Ahern, Chicago, chairman; Effie braries; Angie V. Milner, Normal, Auge V. Milner, Normal, representing normal school libraries; Louise B. Krause, representing special libraries; C. J. Barr, River Forest, representing library trustees.

Coming meeting

The Oklahoma library association will hold its annual meeting in El Reno, April 28-30.

A joint meeting of the Michigan and Wisconsin library associations will be held in Menominee, Mich., August 26.

A. L. A. Publicity

The executive officer of the A. L. A. has sent out a circular to a large list of libraries, sending them a selected list of newspapers and periodicals, with the request that they be placed on the library mailing list to receive regularly all printed material sent out by the library. Features that might be considered "news" outside the locality of the library, are to be pencilled or better yet, a news letter sent to these papers, giving them extracts of the reports written in newsy fashion. Librarians are requested to induce the leading papers in the various localities to run weekly or bi-weekly, a library column, where it is not done already. Librarians are requested to send the name of any paper conducting such a column to A. L. A. headquarters, with a view to the latter's sending additional material from time to time. This is the sort of publicity which is along the line of endeavor of the A. L. A. at present.

Interesting Things in Print

Library leaflet No. 5 of the Massachusetts agricultural college contains a list of some good books for farm women. No. 4 is a list of books on vegetable gardening.

An interesting survey of the development of libraries in Pennsylvania occupies 15 pages in *Pennsylvania Library Notes* for October. The report is made by Thomas L. Montgomery, State librarian of Pennsylvania.

The *Columbia Alumni News* of January contains a review of the administration of Dr Johnston as librarian of Columbia university, speaking in the highest terms of the extent and efficiency of his service to the library. It is stated that "Dr Johnston found a college library and is leaving a university library."

A page of library news is contributed to the *School Bulletin* issued monthly. "Briefs on new books: signed reviews by experts of volumes in the library," are printed weekly in the newspapers. A list of books on various subjects in mechanics has been issued in a vestpocket size.

The University of the State of New York has issued a bulletin from the School library division on the best things in print. It is offered as an aid in helping young people to like good literature. The works included on the list are intended for teachers and libraries, and not for children.

The Springfield (Mass.) Republican, January 2, contains a column setting forth the helps for the business man to be found in the City library at Springfield. Books of practical value on efficiency, cost, accounting, advertising, etc., are evaluated and attention called to the use that can be made of them in the daily business life of the city.

A joint catalog of the periodicals, publications and transactions of societies and other books published at intervals, to be found in the various libraries of the city of Toronto, has just been issued by

the library of the University of Toronto and the Public library. It is a second edition, revised and brought up to date, the first one having been issued in 1898.

An interesting article on "Material on geography," which may be obtained free, or at small cost, by Mary J. Booth, librarian of the State normal school, Charleston, Ill., is given in the January number of the *Journal of Geography*. The article gives directions how the material may be obtained, and a list 20 pages long of the material and the place from which it may be obtained.

The Public library, Manchester, England, has issued four music lists of material in their reference library—of songs, duets and vocal methods, compositions for the piano, a list of chamber music and one for the organ and harmonium.

It has also issued a list of books and magazine articles on "The Battle of Tippecanoe," "The Battle of the River Raisin," and "The Battle of the River Thames."

The United States Bureau of Education has issued a bulletin for the teachers of the rural schools particularly, entitled, "Teaching material in government publications." This is intended to open a great mass of government publications that contain instructive and interesting reading on vital subjects, which publications will be supplied to schools and teachers free in most cases. The publications will deal with material pertaining to the political, social and economic life of the day.

"Guide to the United States for the immigrant alien," is the name of a little book by John Foster Carr, which has been very highly commended as a serviceable source of information for those who are coming in unacquainted with the laws and customs of America. It is printed in separate manuals in Swedish, Polish, Yiddish and English. It may be had in paper cover, 20c postpaid, from the Social service library, 18 Somerset St., Boston, or from Mr Carr at 241 Fifth Ave., New York City.

An address before the Nebraska library association by Jessie M. Towne, Department of English, Omaha high school, on "Stimulation to reading for high-school students," on October 15-17, 1913, and an address at the same place and time, on "Foreign literature in translation," by Zora L. Shields, also of the Department of English of the Omaha public schools, have been issued in pamphlet form by the Omaha public library. A selected bibliography of translations from the various languages is given as a supplement to Miss Shields' paper.

An interesting article on "An auxiliary language for inter-communication," by Eugene F. McPike, appears in the *Dial* for February 1, 1914, reviewing the history of the efforts along this line. Attention is called to the proposed Universal Language Union and a Universal Language Bureau, which will likely be attempted by the Swiss Federal Council, under the jurisdiction of the Universal Language Bureau founded in Berne in 1911, an association which is officered by men of high rank, and which is absolutely neutral in its attitude towards the various projects. Reprints of the article in the *Dial* have been made.

Among the best books of the year 1913 undoubtedly will be included "The everyday life of Abraham Lincoln," by Francis Fisher Browne. This is a narrative and descriptive biography with pictures and personal recollections of those who knew him. The completion of the work was the last literary labor of its author, and the manuscript was only finished a short time before his death in California in May, 1913.

It is a revision of an original work which was published about 20 years after Lincoln's death, but is entirely re-written, compressed into only about two-thirds of its former capacity, is a much more popular book in form and price, and has an added note of interest from the personal touch. An index to the volume adds to its value.

The New York public library has begun publication of a monthly bulletin un-

der the title of *Branch Library News*. As stated in the foreword, the function of the pamphlet is to list accessions to the library that may prove of special value to the borrowers in the different branch libraries, to be a news sheet which shall keep the readers of the branches informed in a broad way of the varied activities of the libraries throughout the city. Announcements of lectures, exhibitions, reports, notes and suggestions that may enable the readers to use to the best advantage the facilities of the library, are to have a place in its columns. The new publication will supplement the monthly list of additions, but the *Monthly Bulletin* will continue along its usual lines, containing a report of the activities of the month, and comprehensive lists of books on varied subjects.

Two German Library Tools

Grundlagen einer Instruktion für die Kataloge von Volks- und Stadtbüchereien, zusammengestellt und herausg. von Felix Lüdike und Willy Pieth. Charlottenburg, 1914. 67 pp. 8°. price m. 2.75.

This is a code of simplified cataloging rules based upon the learned and well-known Prussian *Instruktionen*, and intended for the use of popular and small libraries. In plan and purpose it is analogous to the various simplified codes with which American catalogers are familiar. Abating our misgivings as to the value of this sort of dilution, we are able to state that the present compilation is clear and concise, embodying simple directions and statements of fundamentals, each point being well illustrated with sample entries. American librarians will be interested in noting the general agreement between these rules and those in use in America and England. The compilers, who are members of the staff of the public library of Charlottenburg, affirm that the need of a code adapted to libraries of a popular character is urgent, and modestly offer the present pamphlet as a first attempt to meet that need, expressly declaring their readiness to accept suggestions or amendments for a revised edition.

Hinrichs' Halbjahrs-Katalog of which the author list and subject index for the first half of 1913 have just come to hand, is too well-known to need comment except for the introduction of some new features of American cataloging for the first time. This volume is the two hundred and thirtieth of the series, indicating a continuous existence of more than a century. The familiar style, typography and format, with its compact wealth of detail, has, of course, been retained, imparting to the work that staid air of solidarity and finality which are such a comfort to the seeker after German bibliographical information. A new feature has been added to the subject index which still further enhances its usefulness. This is the entry of full titles of books under their subjects instead of mere references to the author entry, as in previous volumes. The so-called subject index is therefore no less than a complete dictionary catalog of the period covered.

In some respects the German catalog is more satisfactory than American lists, in which the discount rates are not indicated sufficiently, school and text books, for instance, not being distinguished from the other "net" books, while the German catalog has three different discount indications, "n", "n n" and "n n n".

A Cuban catalog

Republica de Cuba: Camara de Representantes. Catalogo de las obras que forman su biblioteca; secciones de hacienda publica y de comercio y transporte. Habana, 1913.

It is clear from this catalog of its departments of public finance and of commerce and transportation that the library of the Chamber of Representatives of the Republic of Cuba is not obliged to practice economy in its publications. In the 200 odd pages there are listed some 1500 titles, an average of seven entries a page. Technically the entries are excellently done, after the best and most rigid Library of Congress manner, and the style of that great institution is faithfully followed, from government author headings down to imprint and collation notes. Bibliographically the 1500 titles rather luxuriously cataloged constitute

an uneven collection. Many magazine articles and pamphlets on minute local topics are included, and many of the titles which might be expected to appear in a small collection are wanting. Typographically, the work is unusually fine and attractive. An excellent author and subject index is appended.

Appreciation in a New Way

Stephen Jenkins' last book, "The Old Boston post road," recently published by the Putnams bears the following graceful dedication:

This Book is Dedicated
to the
LIBRARIANS AND ASSISTANT
LIBRARIANS

In all public and historical association libraries on the route of the great post road, including both termini, as a mark of my deep appreciation of their willing assistance, their unfailing courtesy, their friendly interest, their generous co-operation, and above all, their wonderful patience.

The book sketches the land-marks and early history of the towns of the old post road which ran from New York along the Sound to New Haven, thence to Middletown, Hartford, Springfield, and across the hills to Palmer, Brookfield, Worcester and on into Boston.

Gifts of Money to Libraries, 1913

Among the gifts of money to libraries during the year 1913, may be mentioned the following:

Emma Bailey, to Langhorne, Pa....	\$ 5,000
Rebecca L. Bringhurst, City institute, Philadelphia	5,000
Andrew Carnegie, eight libraries....	268,000
Dr L. A. Duhring, to Philadelphia institute	5,000
John Fritz, to Bethlehem, Pa.....	50,000
C. R. Gregory, to St. Louis free library	10,000
M. D. Martin, to York, Pa.....	185,000
Mrs J. B. Samuel, City institute, Philadelphia	5,000
Mrs Cora Seifried, at Georgetown, Cal.	12,000
Mrs G D. Widener, Harvard university, Cambridge	2,000,000

Public Ledger, Philadelphia.

Library Schools**Carnegie library of Pittsburgh****Training school for children's librarians**

Effie L. Power, supervisor of children's work in the St. Louis public library gave her annual course of 10 lectures to the school January 26-31. The subjects of the lectures were:

The beginnings of a literature for children with special reference to fiction. (2 lectures.)

Five great children's classics. (2 lectures.)

Standard fiction. (2 lectures.)

Popular fiction.

Administration of children's rooms.

Organization of a children's department.

Work with normal schools.

Alumnae notes

Elizabeth Dexter, '14, has resigned her position on the staff of the Pittsburgh library to accept an appointment as children's librarian in the Public library of Detroit, Michigan.

Edith Morley Smith, '04, has been appointed temporary registrar of the Training school, in the absence of Margaret Macdonell.

Drexel institute

Recent visiting lecturers have been as follows:

Jan. 29. Library organizing, Miss Helen D. Subers, Drexel '03.

Feb. 2. Two lectures on Order work, Arthur L. Bailey, librarian Wilmington Institute free library.

Feb. 10. Two lectures on Library buildings, William R. Eastman.

Feb. 13. Two lectures, Administration of a large public library and The work of the New York public library, Edwin H. Anderson, director New York public library.

Feb. 19. Some lost arts of librarianship, by Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian St. Louis public library.

Feb. 26-27. Three lectures, The story interests of the child at different ages. The preparation and presentation of the story. Principles of book selection for children, by Mrs Edna Lyman Scott.

The director spent Dec. 31-Jan. 11 in attending the Library School round table at Chicago and visiting the public li-

braries of Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, and the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. She spoke before the Western Reserve library school, the Cleveland training class for children's librarians, the Training school for children's librarians at Pittsburgh, and the staff of the Detroit public library.

CORINNE BACON,
Director.

University of Illinois

The month of field work for those members of the Senior class who are planning to receive the degree of B. L. S. at the close of this year, began on February 9 and will close on March 7. This work is done in coöperation with a number of the public libraries in the State of Illinois, the selection this year being as follows: Elizabeth H. Davis, assigned to Decatur; Fanny Dunlap, Evanston; Stella Belle Galpin, Oak Park; Louise Fenimore Schwartz, Rockford; Rose Roberts Sears, Jacksonville; Mary Zeliaette Troy, Galesburg. At the close of the four weeks of field work the senior and junior classes, accompanied by the assistant director and another member of the faculty, will visit the libraries, book stores, printing offices and binderies of St. Louis, Missouri, and Jacksonville and Springfield, Illinois, returning to the University about March 15.

The course of special lectures authorized by the University of Illinois was continued during January by Henry E. Legler, librarian of the Chicago public library, who gave the following addresses on January 22 and 23. Developments in municipal and legislative reference, in which Mr Legler spoke from the point of view of the man who has been instrumental in starting both legislative and municipal reference work. Mr Legler showed the need of this recent development in library interests and was able to draw frequently from his knowledge of the Legislative reference department in Wisconsin and from the more recently established Municipal reference library in connection with the Civics room of the Chicago public library. On January 23, Mr Legler gave

a most delightful and interesting talk on "Books our grandmothers read." The lecture was illustrated with many early editions of chap-books and other early forms of popular literature as well as some delightfully illustrated reprints and more recent books. On the afternoon of the same day Mr Legler gave an illustrated lecture on the recent developments of the Chicago public library, emphasizing especially the connection of the library with the play-ground movement as it has taken form in Chicago. On the evening of January 22, Director and Mrs Windsor gave a dinner to the members of the faculty in honor of Mr Legler.

Alumni notes

Anna May Price, B. L. S. 1900, has been appointed organizer of the Illinois library extension commission with headquarters at the State capitol in Springfield.

Mabel Jones, B. L. S. 1909, is acting as substitute cataloger for the University of Illinois library.

Edna A. Hester, 1903-04, has returned to the school and will take a special course.

Fanny W. Hill, 1912-13, has returned to the school after a year's absence and will complete the junior course. During her absence from the school, Miss Hill has been an assistant in the Champaign, Illinois, public library while the librarian was on leave of absence. Miss Hill later organized the public library at Union City, Indiana.

Rachel Agg, of the junior class has withdrawn from the school to take the position of librarian in the Public library at Plymouth, Indiana.

FRANCES SIMPSON, Assistant-director.

New York public library

The juniors have had the following lectures from librarians and others during the past month:

Baroda libraries, on January 21, W. A. Borden, organizer of the Baroda system of libraries, with a supplementary talk on East India life by Mrs Borden. The lecturers answered many questions afterward at a school tea, and exhibited many of the treasures they had collected during their residence in Baroda.

Prints, and book-illustration, January 14 and 21, Mr Weitenkampf, of the Library staff. Afterward the lecturer set the class the problem of naming the reproductive processes illustrated by some pictures selected for the purpose.

Large library administration, Mr Anderson, and Branch library administration, Mr Adams, January 28 and February 4.

Poetry and American life, on February 4, by Robert Underwood Johnson, formerly editor of the *Century Magazine*.

Senior lectures have been as follows:

Advanced and cataloging course; Literature of ornithology, and Literature of zoology, Prof. F. F. Burr, Columbia University, January 20 and 27. Literature of botany, Sarah H. Harlow, of the Botanical Garden library, February 3.

School and college library course; The same as above, with the continuation of the History of printing and work on early printed books.

Administration course; Publicity for libraries, Mrs Frances Rathbone Coe, of the Somerville (Mass.) public library, and F. C. Hicks, of Columbia University, January 29 and February 5. Visits to grades 6-8 of the public schools. Presentation of reports on visits to grades 1-8. Problem: Writing of imaginary library report, based on stated conditions of locality and library.

Students attended the meeting of the New York library club the evening of January 22, at which Mr John Collier spoke on Moving picture shows. Mr Collier's address aroused much interest, as he proved successfully the existence of a commercial monopoly making it hard to secure enough good films and repetition of good films by schools, churches, libraries, and other institutions desiring to make an educational use of the same.

MARY W. PLUMMER, Principal.

New York state library

Regular school exercises will be suspended from Feb. 27 to April 9. During the month of March, the students will be engaged in practice work in various libraries outside of Albany. Six of the senior class will reorganize six of the smaller libraries of the state under the general supervision of Miss Webster, library organizer for the Educational extension division. This experience is supplementary to the course in library extension which has been given under the direction of Mr Watson and Miss Better-

idge of the Educational extension division.

Clara W. Hunt, supervisor of work with children in the Brooklyn public library conducted an interesting and successful course of lectures in library work with children during the first week of February.

Other lectures not by the regular faculty or instructors have been:

January 19.—Caroline F. Webster, library organizer. Organization of small libraries.

January 20.—Dr John M. Clarke, director, New York state museum. Popular scientific books.

January 23.—Mary C. Chamberlain, librarian for the blind, New York state library. Work for the blind.

January 27-28.—Hiller C. Wellman, librarian, Springfield (Mass.) City library association. Library advertising (2 lectures).

February 13-14.—Dr Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian, St. Louis public library. Some lost arts of librarianship; The art of reading. (2 lectures.)

A collection of children's books has been begun under the care of Miss Woodworth to whom the school owes much of the value of most of its collections. The basis of the collection is a contribution of books dating from 1771 to 1878—the gift of the Wisconsin historical society. Other modern books have been added by purchase and the school will be glad to receive gifts of juvenile literature of any kind to increase further the collection.

F. K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

The annual luncheon of the Graduates' association was held at the Hotel Algonquin, New York, Wednesday, January 28. There were 95 in attendance, including a full delegation from the class of 1914. These were sprinkled by twos among the company so that each of them met a number of the older graduates. Mrs Adelaide B. Maltby, the retiring president, presided. Mr Stevens spoke of the new club house which is in course of preparation for the use of the women students of the Institute. Each school is to have a special room which is being furnished by its graduates. Franklin F. Hopper, of the class of 1901, told of some of the

influences making for library progress in the Northwest. The Vice-director presented a résumé of the results gathered by the questionnaire recently sent out to the graduates. There were 269 responses received out of a total of 284 sent out. Leaving out those doing piece work, there are 261 graduates now earning \$282,340 a year, or an average salary of \$1,081. This total annual income capitalized represents five per cent on over \$5,500,000—and what is still more interesting, the graduates are now earning more than twice as much a year as the school has cost, including tuition and annual appropriations, from its foundation to date. As an argument in favor of the endowment of a library school, that might not be without value. The average schedule of hours a week is 40½, and the average vacation six weeks, including school and college libraries. Comparing with the results in 1898 when similar questions were asked, we find that the average Pratt graduate worked in 1898, 42½ hours with an annual vacation of four weeks and five days for an average salary of \$686, while in 1913 the average graduate works 40½ hours, has six weeks' vacation, and receives \$1,081 a year.

Clara W. Hunt, superintendent of the Children's department, Brooklyn public library, gave three lectures in January on children's work, including child study, problems of discipline and the arrangement of children's rooms.

Mrs Frances Rathbone Coe, '03, of the Somerville (Mass.) public library, talked to the students on "Advertising the work of a public library" on January 30.

Mary Casamajor, of the Brooklyn public library, gave two lectures on the work of the branch library on February 3 and 10. In the first lecture she dwelt upon the relation of the branch library to its community, and in the second lecture upon the administrative problems of the branch library.

Alumni notes

Cards have been received announcing the marriage on January 20 of Edith E. Hunt, '95, to Chester J. Randall.

Mary F. Stebbins, '12, Cleveland training class, '13, formerly children's librarian of the Miles Park branch of the Cleveland public library, has been made school reference librarian of the Utica public library.

Mabel E. Balston, '13, is substituting in the Ethical Culture library of New York during the absence from illness of the librarian, Ina Rankin, '09.

Margrete Thumbo, '13, has resigned her position in the cataloguing department of Yale university to return to Copenhagen, where she will have charge of a branch in the new public library system.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHRONE,
Vice-Director.

Simmons college

With the opening of the second term February, many of the most important technical courses began. The sophomores and college graduates are being initiated into the Decimal classification by Miss Hill; the advanced classes, seniors and college graduates, are studying the History of libraries, three times a week for the semester, under Mr Bolton, and Public documents, twice a week under Mr Belden.

Miss Jordan has also begun her course on Children's work, required of juniors and open to college graduates, which has two meetings a week through the term.

The chief innovation of the year has been in the teaching of cataloguing. The time devoted to it has been increased by fifty per cent, and consecutive courses are given in the sophomore, junior and senior years. Though the work is concentrated in the second term of each year, it practically becomes a "major" in the sophomore, senior and college graduate classes. Miss Theresa Hitchler, as an "efficiency expert," is laying out the courses and giving the instruction.

The museum of fine arts is so close a neighbor that it has been possible to co-operate with it successfully. In addition to the course in the History of art which has been given as a regular part of the school program for some years, by Mr Greene in the museum, this year the con-

nexion has been strengthened by an arrangement between the museum and the college which resulted in the following series of lectures:

February 5—Mr Foster Stearns. The library of an art museum. Given in the Art Museum library.

February 12—Mr Carrington. The care and mounting of prints. In the print room.

February 19—Miss Turner. The photograph department. In the photograph department.

The only visit of the month has been to the Library Bureau.

Miss Maud Campbell's lecture on Work with foreigners was one of the most stimulating of the year, one where the fifty minute period necessitated by the college schedule was all too short. The school is greatly indebted to the Massachusetts Free public library commission for its loan of Miss Campbell and Miss Brown to give to the students an idea of what the commission's work really is.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY.

Western Reserve university

Library work with children has received emphasis in the school during the past month in the lectures by Miss Caroline Burnite, director of children's work of the Cleveland public library, on the Administration of children's rooms, and by Miss Effie L. Power, head of the children's department of the St. Louis public library on Literature for children.

The director began the new course on "The public library and community welfare" with a lecture on "The new spirit of social and community responsibility." There will be weekly lectures in the course by the director and visiting lecturers, some of the subjects being: Interrelation of organizations and agencies for community betterment; National organizations, foundations and publications; The library's place in the scheme; Organization and supervision of boys' and girls' clubs; Work with study clubs, preparation of study outlines, etc.; Recreation as a community necessity; The librarian as a public speaker and civic

promoter, etc. Dr Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of the St. Louis public library, was the first visiting lecturer in the course, February 11, his subject being "The social center idea." His address was received with enthusiastic appreciation and the informal discussion which followed proved very helpful.

The class had the pleasure in January of hearing a talk by Miss Brenda Franklyn of London, England, temporarily residing in Cleveland as a miniature artist, on the English militant suffrage movement. As Miss Franklyn is a personal friend of Mrs Pankhurst, she gave an informing and entertaining view of the subject. Clara L. Myers, associate professor of English at the College for women, gave a lecture on "The essay" before the class in book selection, in February.

The director entertained the class and faculty at her apartment for afternoon tea on Saturday, January 24.

Alumni news

Ethel M. Knapp, '07, formerly librarian of the Mt. Vernon (O.) public library is now cataloger at the University of Indiana library.

Audiene Graham, '13, has been appointed librarian of the Owatonna (Minn.) public library.

ALICE S. TYLER,
Director.

University of Wisconsin

The school had a most interesting and profitable day on Monday, January 5, when work began after the holiday recess. Mr E. H. Anderson, president of the American library association, and Dr Frank P. Hill, spent the day at the school, each giving two addresses. Mr Anderson spoke in the afternoon on Library administration from the standpoint of human relations, and in the evening on the work of the New York public library, using many lantern slides. Dr Hill gave two lectures in the morning on Library service. Tea was served in the afternoon, as a pleasant introduction to the resumption of study, and especially to afford all an opportunity to meet Mr Anderson and Dr Hill socially. Dr William C. Daland, president of Milton

college, lectured before the school on January 22, speaking on the subject of Words and their significance. Dr T. S. Adams of the Wisconsin tax commission, on January 24, gave a valuable discussion of Books in political economy, and Miss Mary A. Smith of the Madison public library gave a forceful presentation on Instructing pupils in the eighth grade on the use of the library.

The first semester closed on January 27, with examinations in each subject. On January 29 the students started for their field appointments, which work marks the beginning of the second semester. The appointments have been most carefully planned to afford each student the experience needed to supplement both preparatory experience and formal work in the school. Thirty-one libraries have opened their doors as laboratories for 29 students during the two months, and the work as assigned may be broadly classed as indicated in the following:

There were 15 libraries, both public and college, opened to one or two students for special cataloging; three libraries for acting librarians; eight libraries for assistants in special work and six for assistants on regular library work to one or several students.

School notes

Mr Dudgeon, Miss Hazeltine, Miss Bascom, and Mr Lester attended the meeting of the Faculty of the library schools and the League of library commission in Chicago, December 31 to January 2. Miss Hazeltine was the chairman of the Faculty meeting.

Miss Mary F. Carpenter entertained the faculty, students, and a few friends of the school at her home, on the evening of January 27. The evening was devoted to a dramatic reading of *Disraeli*, the drama written for George Arliss by Louis N. Parker. The parts were read by selected readers from both the town and the university.

Alumni notes

Laura F. Angell, '07, was married on January 28 to H. H. Henry. Miss Angell had been librarian of the Aram library, Delavan, Wis., since its organiza-

tion in 1908. Mr and Mrs Henry are to make their home in Lincoln, Ill.

Lydia E. Kinsley, '07, accepted an appointment in the branch library system of the Detroit public library on January 1.

Lucile Cully, '08, librarian of the Public library, Kewanee, Ill., was married on December 17, to E. G. Taylor. Their home is 403 South Chestnut street, Kewanee.

The classmates of Alice S. Wyman, '10, will learn with sorrow of the death of her mother in November.

Bessie H. Dexter, '11, resigned as children's assistant in the branch system of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, to accept a similar position in the Public library of Detroit.

Marion E. Frederickson, '13, became acting reference assistant in the Gilbert Simmons library, Kenosha, Wis., on January 1.

Margaret E. Bucknam, formerly a joint course student in the class of 1914, was married on December 25 to M. C. Sjoblom.

Genevieve Mayberry, summer school '08, was married on November 29, to George B. Averill, Jr. Their home is in Milwaukee. Mrs Averill was librarian of the Farnsworth public library, Oconto, Wis., at the time of her marriage. Mr Averill was formerly librarian of the Madison public library.

Harriet L. Kidder, summer school, '13, became assistant-librarian in the University of Montana, Missoula, in November, 1913.

A Proposed School in California

In the recent report of the library of the University of California, referring to a proposed library school, the following outline is used:

The course shall continue through one academic year, with sixteen hours of instruction per week and about twice that amount of problem and practice work. All candidates for admission to the Library school must meet the entrance requirements in Group 1; from the successful matriculants the faculty of the school shall select the best qualified up to the number of thirty. Subjects completed in the Library

school shall count for credit toward a University degree if desired, thus permitting academic students taking the library course to enter upon library work immediately upon graduation. Tuition fees in the Library school shall be the same as for other undergraduates.

A New Appointment in Illinois Extension Commission

Anna May Price has been put in charge of the work of the Illinois library extension commission.

She is a graduate of the University of Illinois library school, receiving B. L. S. in 1900. After completing her course at the school Miss Price was made librarian of South Dakota university where she remained for five years. During the first part of her appointment in South Dakota she acted as secretary to the president in addition to her library duties. During Miss Price's residence in South Dakota she organized a number of smaller libraries throughout the state, especially the public libraries of Vermillion, of Lead and the high-school library of Lead. In 1904-05 she was secretary of the South Dakota library association. During the summer of 1907, Miss Price organized the Nebraska State Historical library. In 1911 she had charge of the summer courses in library training given at the LaCrosse (Wis.) normal school and in 1913 did similar work at the University of Utah. From September, 1905, to September, 1912, Miss Price was assistant-professor of library economy in the University of Illinois library school, teaching cataloging, classification, book selection, and occasionally other subjects. From January 1 to July 1, 1913, she organized the library of the new normal school at Chadron, Nebraska, and from November 1, 1912, to February 1, 1914, performed similar work in the Platteville (Wis.) normal school library.

Before coming into library work, Miss Price had a business experience of several years in Fairbury, Nebraska, and holds an A. B. degree from the University of Nebraska, an A. M. from the University of South Dakota, and B. L. S. from the University of Illinois.

Notes from Foreign Sources

Holland

The *Maandblad voor Bibliotheekswesen*, successor to *De Boekzaal*, is published at the Hague under the editorship of Dr. H. E. Greve, as the official organ of the Centrale Vereeniging voor Openbare Leeszaal en Bibliotheeken (the Dutch library association). The *Maandblad* is completing its first volume. It contains articles, news of libraries in Holland and in other countries, and book notes. Among subjects treated during the year are—transliteration of Russian names, Swedish library affairs, cataloging, periodicals, new library buildings, and seminar libraries. The *Kroniek* (news notes) contains frequent references to important developments in American library affairs. The following paragraphs on Dutch libraries are taken from the *Maandblad*.

The Dutch library association has been in existence five years, and met at the Hague in July, 1913, with Dr. D. Bos as president. He reported about 20 public reading rooms and libraries, and also libraries founded by the Roman Catholic church for religious instruction. He expressed the hope of seeing a public reading room and library started in every place of importance in Holland during the next five years, and he emphasized the need of good technical training in library science. "The novel in our public libraries" was the topic for discussion at the meeting.

The library of the University of Amsterdam is a many sided institution with limited means on which unlimited demands are made. It is university library, city library, public reading room, and popular library all in one in a city of nearly 600,000 inhabitants! There is a movement for a separate public reading room. This library has received as a gift the collections of Prof. Quack on socialism. The first seminar library in Holland has been created for the department of Old German, under Prof. R. C. Boer. The editor of the *Maandblad* in this connection takes occasion to call attention to the disadvantages of poten-

tial decentralization involved in the seminar library system.

The Openbare Leeszaal (public reading room), Middelburg, uses the Dewey decimal classification.

The library of the University of Utrecht has a special collection on music, of which a catalog has been published. A handbook and guide to the library for the benefit of students and visitors has also been issued recently.

The Dordrecht Openbare Leeszaal in 1912 with a total of 12,392 volumes, circulated 66,545.

The Centrale Nederlandsche Blindenbibliotheek with headquarters at the Hague has begun to utilize the public reading rooms on behalf of the blind, and has deposited 200 volumes in Braille in the public reading room in Utrecht.

In South Africa even the smallest villages are said to have public libraries.

An annual bibliography of book and library affairs in Holland is being published, two volumes have already appeared; the editor is G. A. Evers, of the library of the University of Utrecht.

Extracts from the report of the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (royal library) at the Hague for 1912 were published in September, 1913. The restoration of the rooms on the ground floor is still under way. A definite regulation of the salaries of the entire staff was made. Among important accessions was noted J. Pierpont Morgan's gift of the catalog of his miniatures and jewels (in four parts). The increasing use of the library throughout the country has made necessary further provision for meeting these demands upon its resources. The need of more work on the documents, and of printing the catalogs was emphasized. The collection of breviaries received additions, and also the collections of letters of statesmen, scholars and poets. Auctions in and out of Holland are being watched for chances to bring into the possession of Holland important documents that have been owned privately or abroad. The total recorded use of books (excluding reference books on open shelves in the large reading room) reached 270,000 volumes.

Norway

In Norway several librarians from the large libraries are traveling about to inspect the smaller city and country libraries, and to help them according to opportunity by word and deed. In two years, six librarians have visited 76 popular libraries. A report has been made to the Kultusministerium. Of these libraries, 21 are located in commune buildings, 20 in a school, 22 in private buildings, 3 in church rooms, etc. Commune buildings are more and more being arranged so as to give space to the libraries. Of the librarians, about 30 per cent are teachers, the other 70 per cent is divided among priests, house owners, bank cashiers, etc. All the visiting librarians agree that the salaries of librarians are too small, and out of all proportion to the work, and that a prime requisite to good library work is an efficient librarian. As for the library organization, 66 per cent of these libraries give the books merely a running accession number. Some use "Dewey's classification," others have their own classification, and still others leave the books "hulter til butler" (helter-skelter).

Cuba

Revista de la Biblioteca Nacional (Havana, Cuba), is a monthly journal edited by Domingo Figarola-Caneda, the director of the library. The twelve numbers for 1912 have just been issued in one part of 176 pages. The manuscripts belonging to the library are in course of publication, and this volume contains letters of José Antonio Saco. The catalog of international law is being published serially. A special historical contribution to this volume is an illustrated account of early Cuban coats of arms. There is no index.

For sale: Newspaper cabinet, 52"x32"x20" with adjustable shelves for a year's file of newspapers and space for 7 bound volumes below. Cost \$65, price \$15. Book-truck, (L. B.) Cost \$25, price \$10. Both in good condition. The price does not include crating nor transportation charges. Address Library of The Russell Sage Foundation, New York City.

News from the Field**East**

Katherine E. Hunt, Drexel, '07, has accepted a temporary position as cataloger in Howe library, Hanover, N. H.

Clara A. Jones resigned as librarian of the Public library of Warwick, Mass., after 33 years of service. In that time the library has grown from 1,700 volumes to about 5,800 volumes. The population of the place is less than 500. These figures speak volumes.

The celebrated collection of Stevensonia, made by Harry Elkins Widener, Harvard '07, one of the victims of the Titanic disaster, has been given by his mother to Harvard library. The finest thing in the collection is the group of 57 original letters written to Sidney Colvin by Stevenson between 1890 and 1894. Of these letters 12 were written during the author's Pacific voyages, and 45 during his residence in Samoa. A catalog of the collection, which is the finest in existence, has been made by Dr Rosenbach, of Philadelphia, who has also written an appreciative memoir of Mr Widener. The catalog enumerates 228 items, each letter being counted as one. There are a number of unpublished poems in the collection.

The annual report of the Silas Bronson library of Waterbury, Conn., records a circulation of 259,578 v., with 94,702 v. on the shelves. About 48 per cent of the circulation was in children's books, about one-third of which were given out from school deposit libraries in 25 school houses. A new branch was opened during the year with 2,500 books on the shelves. Clubs for boys and girls have been started at two of the branches, and coöperation with the city playground association has been carried on. A place was given in the city budget exhibition, to bring the library to the attention of the public. The members of the library staff were detailed to be present at the exhibition during busy hours, to give information desired by visitors. Considerable result has been noticed from the work done there.

The Public library commission of Massachusetts has recommended to the Assembly the following advanced ideas in library work:

An increased appropriation for reference and children's books for the schools of the state; provision for expenses in connection with the office of the director of the work with aliens; increased appropriations to carry on activities in all legitimate ways in libraries of towns of one million dollars valuation and over; appropriation for frequent and direct services of trained librarians in small libraries; also legislation permitting use of libraries by non-residents and citizens of other towns on such terms and conditions as trustees of lending libraries may in reason prescribe. The commission also recommended an increase of 500 in the number of reports now published, 1,200 copies of which shall be available for distribution by the commission.

The fourth annual report of the trustees of the State library of Massachusetts is a document of especial interest, as it gives in brief compass a history of the library and its development. The State library is 87 years of age, although the movement from which it resulted began 102 years ago, and now consists of 172,692 volumes and 150,862 pamphlets. The scope of the library is admirably set forth on pages 10 and 11 of the report, and the trustees lay emphasis on the fact that the General Court, since the founding of the library, has adjusted its appropriations to the scheme outlined: i. e., a library for the use of the General Court, state officers and such other persons as may be permitted to use it. The trustees again call attention to the imperative need of special appropriations for the purchase of statute laws and the legislative reports of other states and countries, as well as the need of an appropriation to repair and preserve certain rare and valuable books. They again call attention to the need for an up-to-date, scientific, public card catalog.

The report of the librarian, supplementing that of the trustees, contains an account of the legislative reference work

of the past year and the various ways in which the state library is coöperating with associations and individuals, including coöperative work for publication. Appended is a table of accessions from the year 1900 to date.

An appendix to the report is entitled "Additional notes relating to state library legislation and the development of the library."

Central Atlantic

William M. Stevenson, for 13 years librarian of the Carnegie library at Allegheny, Pa., died January 12, aged 58.

Marion A. Knight, classifier and annotator in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh from 1901 to October, 1913, has recently joined the editorial staff of the H. W. Wilson company.

The annual report of the Public library of Buffalo records a circulation of 1,502,546 v. for home use, with 82,382 adult borrowers registered and 40,000 children drawing books from classroom libraries in the public schools. Several new branches are advocated for thickly settled sections of the city. Fiction circulation was 57 per cent of the whole.

The annual report of the library of Princeton university shows number of accessions during the year was 18,150, of which 11,365 were bound volumes. Total in the library, 355,897. The circulation was 56,231 v., an increase over last year. The expenditure was \$52,763, of which \$17,243 was for books and binding, \$22,161 for salaries, and \$9,672 for building, and \$3,686 for sundries.

John P. Dullard has been appointed State-librarian of New Jersey for a term of five years, at a salary of \$3,000, to succeed Henry C. Buchanan, who had been librarian for 15 years. Mr Dullard is considered an expert on the subject of taxation, and has been a newspaper man for 25 years. He is considered as extremely well qualified for the work of the Legislative reference bureau.

John Edmands, librarian emeritus of the Mercantile library of Philadelphia, observed his ninety-fourth birthday,

February 1. Mr Edmands is in fairly good health and able to walk to and from his office. Mr Edmands was formerly librarian at Yale university, and was made librarian of the Mercantile library when it had a collection of 13,000 v. It now has 300,000 v.

The annual report of the Johnson free library of Hackensack, N. J., reports a circulation of 70,000 v. There were 16,173 applications for reference made at the desk. There are 17,170 v. on the shelves. A number of special gifts which enables the library to meet the increased demand for books of high grade other than fiction are recorded. The receipts for the year were \$6,489. The expenditures were \$6,453.

The Osterhout public library, Wilkes-barre, Pa., celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding, January 30. The library kept open house all day for visitors who called from early morning until late at night. The library was decorated and the occasion was made a holiday. The librarian, Miss Myra Poland, who has been connected with the library from its founding, came there as assistant-librarian to the late lamented Hannah P. James, who organized the library and was its librarian until her death a few years ago.

The 1913 report of the Carnegie library of Homestead, Pa., W. F. Stevens, librarian, gives the following statistics:

Population, 30,000; readers, 11,850; volumes, 43,542; accessions, 3,252; circulation, 249,560; percentage of fiction, 44.33, of which 54.67 is adult, 52.28 is juvenile, and in schools and 35 stations 26.1. The total net increase is 3.1 per cent.

The report of the Public library, Utica, N. Y., for 1913, shows a high water mark in every department. The circulation was 208,361 v., an increase of 14,000 v. There were 3,500 new card holders added. The most noticeable increase is the use of facilities by business men. There are five bulletins in the delivery hall, of which three have permanent use: current events, modern dramatists and the

musical world. During the year 30 visits were made to schools. Groups of teachers met the librarian frequently, to talk over books and use of the library. The deposit stations in engine houses, mills, factories, schools and clubs, have 12,803 v. The employes of the firms or others connected with the places of deposit act as librarians, caring for the books. The foreign circulation was 4,776.

The annual report of the Public library of Binghamton, N. Y., records an increase of 14,898 in the circulation, which reached 186,892. Of this total, 52,919 were class books, an increase of 3,803 over the preceding year. The number of registered borrowers is 17,364, of which 2,019 were added during the year.

The vocational guidance committee, of which the librarian is a member, has its headquarters at the library, bringing the institution and its contents very close to the industrial interests of the city.

Good results have been obtained from the establishment of five sub-stations in outlying districts. There were eight special exhibitions held during the year, with a total attendance of 6,000, and 30 numbers were given in a free lecture course. There were 159 traveling libraries issued to schools, factories and fire-stations.

The annual report of the Public library of Olean, N. Y., records a circulation of 92,311 v. with 11,641 v. on the shelves. The circulation in the reference room was 32,712 v. The library is open to territory adjacent to Olean. A deposit station in the public school for the use of residents in the neighborhood, has made a banner record in its use, the circulation for 25 afternoons reaching 1,307 v. The special privilege offered to clubs and other organizations to place special collections of books in the library has been largely accepted. An exhibition of religious books and pictures was held for a week and proved the most widely advertising plan that the library has yet attempted. Nearly 2,000 visitors were attracted to the building, many of whom came for the first time. For once, the

barriers between religious beliefs seemed to be down. A number of gifts of books and pictures were received during the year.

Central

Audienne Graham, recently appointed librarian of the Public library at Owatonna, Minn., has begun her work.

During the year 1914 seven additional branch libraries are to be established in Chicago by order of the board.

Grace Wright has been appointed librarian in the Public library, Mt. Carroll, Ill., to succeed Luverta Smith, resigned.

Elizabeth Johnston, for three years assistant-librarian at Washington Court House, Ohio, has been appointed librarian to succeed Bessie Kerr, resigned.

J. Howard Dice, B. L. S., N. Y., '13, has been appointed assistant in the reference department of the Ohio state university library, Columbus.

Ruth F. Eliot, B. L. S., N. Y., '11, has joined the staff of the Wisconsin free library commission as assistant to the chief of the Book selection and study club department.

Helen J. Calhoun for sometime librarian of Whiting, Ind., and later connected with the Public library of Houston, Texas, was married at her home in Champaign, Ill., February 14, to Gentry Cash of Whiting.

E. W. Blatchford, one of Chicago's oldest and most philanthropic citizens, died January 25. He had been a trustee of the Newberry and Crerar libraries from their foundation, being named for these positions by the founders of the libraries.

John B. Kaiser, N. Y. S. L. S., B. L. S. '10, has resigned his position as librarian of the Department of economics and sociology at the University of Illinois to succeed Franklin F. Hopper as librarian of the Public library at Tacoma, Wash.

The annual report of the Mercantile library of St. Louis, Mo., shows receipts to have been \$64,992. The library has

a membership of 3,299. The circulation of the library reached 119,195 v., of which 62 per cent was fiction, an increase in the circulation of non-fiction. Total accessions to the library for the year were 4,985 v.

The eleventh annual report of the Public library of Davenport, Ia., shows expenditures of \$20,646. There are 37,791 v. on the shelves, of which 3,143 are in foreign languages. The total circulation for home use was 172,674. There was a decrease in the percentage of fiction, which is now 64. There was a distinct gain in science, arts, literature and biography.

G. M. Burton of Detroit, historian of more than local note, has given his magnificent collection of books and manuscripts relating to the history of Detroit, to the Public library.

The library contains 30,000 volumes, 100,000 pamphlets, 500,000 manuscripts and 27,000 photographs of Detroit scenes, buildings and characters. Mr Burton's gift includes his home and three fireproof buildings which he has erected to house his library. It is the most important gift of the type that has ever been made to the city.

The annual report of the Public library of Mason City, Ia., for 1913, shows a circulation of 56,873 v., 1,567 unbound magazines, 368 pictures; 11,826 v. exclusive of pamphlets and government documents on the shelves; and 5,855 borrowers' cards in force. There was an increase of 16 per cent over the circulation of 1912. There were 19,654 v. lent through the schools. There are collections in four schools cared for by an assistant from the library; in two schools, cared for by teachers, and in the high school, cared for by a special librarian. There was a lowering of the fiction per cent in every lending department of the library. Substations were opened at school houses during the summer vacation. Visiting and story hours advertised these neighborhood libraries. The amount received from the city was \$5,578. Of this \$2,303 was spent for

salaries, \$814 for books, \$185 for binding and \$167 for periodicals. A university extension lecture course was conducted by the library trustees.

The annual report of the Public library of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, records a circulation of 175,016 v., an increase of 11,362. From the library 81,004 adult books were circulated and 47,426 juvenile books; 46,586 were issued at the schools and stations.

Eighty-nine teachers in the public and parochial city schools and rural schools had class room libraries.

An assistant goes to Kenwood Park each week to issue books and tell stories. Library stations were maintained in the two playgrounds during the summer.

The additions to the library of Oberlin college during the past year were 10,602 volumes, 8,300 pamphlets and unbound books, and a number of manuscripts, maps, prints and photographs. Total number of pieces under charge of the librarian, 377,465. A number of valuable gifts were received during the year; 39,683 new cards were prepared for the catalog, which now contains 372,293. The library was open 307 days. Total number of readers, 206,240. Number of books drawn for outside use, 60,522.

The penalties inflicted for non-observance of the silence rule has gradually made the reading rooms places where serious study can be carried on. There is extreme crowding in the stack room, and a hope is indulged that a new building will relieve the situation before very long. Service for the town has been hampered somewhat on account of the state tax law which cut down considerably the funds usually received for public library service.

South

J. F. Marron has been placed in charge of the Legislative bureau of the State library of Texas.

The second colored branch library of Louisville, Ky., was dedicated with appropriate exercises January 28, 29 and 30.

The Agnes Z. Carpenter library, a gift to Natchez, Miss., by N. Leslie Carpenter of New York, formerly a resident of the city, was opened to the public in January. Josephine Davis is librarian.

The annual report of the Public library of Ft. Smith, Ark., records a circulation of 40,505; 60 per cent of which was fiction. The children's circulation was 11,870. A number of valuable additions to the library were made during the year. There are 5,580 names registered. The library is crowded and there will soon be need for extension.

The Commissioner of waterworks was requested to permit the Public library of Fort Worth, Tex., to place a terse advertisement, calling the attention of citizens to the free opportunities offered by the library, on the postal cards which are sent as statements to water consumers, the library to pay for the additional printing. The request was granted and resulted in the enrollment of a number of families who had not been patrons of the library.

There is an effort being made through the prominent librarians in Oklahoma to bring to college and university students the opportunities which library work offers to college graduates. Mrs J. A. Thompson, librarian of the Public library of Chickasha, gave an address on "Library work as a vocation" to the students of the Oklahoma college for women, and Edith Allen Phelps, librarian at Oklahoma City, addressed the young women at Norman on the same subject.

The annual report of the University of North Carolina records that the most active work of the library for the past year has been to extend its services as far as practicable to the state at large, by answering inquiries directed to it, lending books on special subjects, and by participating in the organization and direction of the Bureau of extension of the university. There were 2,425 v. added to the university, in addition to a large

number of pamphlets. Prominent among these were the proceedings of various learned societies and industrial organizations. The total number of volumes in the library is 67,452.

By exhibiting the model libraries for the various grades and the high schools, for the use of teachers, a useful field of new endeavor was occupied by the library in the summer school. The number of borrowers registered as books were loaned reached 1,262. Books issued from the desk, 18,569. No record was kept of the use of material in the general or departmental libraries. There were 38 queries and 703 references posted for debate. The income for the library for the year from all sources was \$10,000, with a disbursement for books, binding and periodicals, of \$3,382, for salaries, \$3,200. Total expenditures, \$8,557.

West

E. M. Damon, lately assistant-librarian of the Public library of Reno, Nevada, has been appointed librarian to succeed J. H. Hamlin, resigned.

The annual report of the Public library of Pittsburg, Kansas, records an increase of 3,000 v. over the circulation of last year. There are 13,145 v. on the shelves, exclusive of government documents, which number 2,209. There were 903 cards issued during the year, making a total of 7,257 in use. The circulation reached a total of 57,265 v.

Pacific Coast

The principal statistics of the annual report of the Library Association of Portland, Ore., show the following:

Population served, 266,116. Number of volumes in the library, 169,842. Registered borrowers, exclusive of school children, 70,510. Volumes issued for home use, 1,168,825. Number of distributing points, 908. Percentage of population registered as borrowers, 26. The removal of the library to the new building, a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Library Association, was the principal event of the year.

The ninth annual report of the Public library of Bellingham, Wash., shows the

number of volumes on the shelves to be 18,246; circulation, 93,517 of which more than one-half was juvenile; cardholders, 14,573. There was expended during the year, for books, binding, etc., \$4,450; buildings, \$3,079; salaries library staff, \$3,698. The staff was organized during the year with heads for the various departments. Many schemes for advertising which have been noted in the library journals were tried, most of them with success. A municipal library, boys' reading club, story hour, special lists, clipping collection, picture collection, and "pieces to speak" are all lines of work much appreciated.

There is much demand for more space, particularly in the reference rooms. The problem of 1914, with \$6,700 appropriation, and the work growing, compared with \$10,674 for 1913, presents a difficult problem for the librarians.

The annual report of the Public library of Pomona, California, records that the first year in the large building has been full of the problems of re-organization.

Clippings and miscellaneous material have been arranged in vertical files, and briefly cataloged. Mounted pictures and maps have been collected into a blue print cabinet. One assistant has been given an hour a day to write newspaper articles on new books. The library has employed assistants trained elsewhere to eliminate as far as possible time-consuming apprentice classes, and is delighted with the result.

Nearly the whole problem of discipline among young people has been solved by turning over the assembly room to the use of the debating teams and other student activities.

Indirect illumination has proved very satisfactory and not unduly expensive.

Receipts for the year, (including balance forwarded from last year of \$7,436), \$19,234. Disbursements, \$13,902. Of this \$6,012 was for salaries.

Total number of books, 23,568; circulation, 101,237 v.; circulation of pictures, 826. Fiction forms 63 per cent of the total circulation.